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DISAPPOINTING MONDALE SPEECH 'COUCHED IN COLD WAR SPIRIT'

LD311041Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 May 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Special correspondents V. Matveyev and M. Sturua dispatch: "The United Nations: Justifying the People's Hopes"]

[Text] New York, 26 May--The acute and urgent questions connected with ending the arms race and with disarmament constitute the pivot of the general discussion now under way at the special UN General Assembly session. The clear and precise position of the Soviet Union on the whole group of disarmament questions is meeting with a lively response within the United Nations. Not a single speaker in the hall where the plenary sessions are being held is ignoring the proposals advanced by the USSR. And this is understandable, for the Soviet proposals are aimed at ending the production of nuclear weapons in all their forms, at ending the production and prohibiting all other types of weapons of mass destruction and, overall, at the total cessation of any further quantitative and qualitative growth of the arms and armed forces of the states possessing a major military potential.

Behind the scenes of the session, the following question was being posed: What proposals and initiatives will the United States advance? After the speech by U.S. Vice President W. Mondale, no one here is concealing their disappointment. The speech by the U.S. representative contained no new concrete proposals on this vitally important issue. The New York TIMES stresses bluntly that Mondale's speech "did not contain a single important proposal on disarmament questions," and the speech was couched in a cold war spirit.

Mondale expressed the hope that the current Soviet-U.S. talks on limiting strategic offensive arms will be successfully completed in the near future. And behind the scenes in the United Nations attention is being directed to the fact that Mondale's speech stressed the problem of "controlling the arms race." Given such an approach, the essence of the question--actual steps toward disarmament--is inevitably depreciated.

A particularly strange sensation developed in those who were listening to the vice president's speech when he tried to prove that it is not NATO, but rather the Warsaw Pact, which is occupied with "a military buildup in Europe on an unprecedented scale." Mondale's speech abounded in stereotyped phrases about the "Soviet threat." In particular, he tried to create the impression that Soviet missiles are threatening Asia, Africa and the Near East. Passing off black as white and white as black, the speaker clearly wanted to embroil the Soviet Union with the developing countries. But this is a futile scheme.

The prestige of Soviet foreign policy is higher than ever before, including among the young developing states. This prestige is based above all on the peace-loving nature of our policy. A Soviet military threat does not exist and cannot exist for any part of the world. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's cordial, warm words of greeting to the states and peoples of Africa on African Liberation Day have also produced a widespread response among the delegates of the developing countries at the special UN General Assembly session.

At the same time, the growing intervention of the Western powers in Zaire is generating alarm among the delegates. Incidentally, Mondale, who touched on the theme of Africa in his speech, remained silent on the role of the NATO countries in the tragic events in Zaire. And this is understandable, because the United States is actively helping--while in no way concealing this fact--those who are interfering in Zaire's affairs and those who are sowing death on African soil.

The peoples of the world expect positive results from this session, which could lead to an etenuation of the contradictions and tension and to a strengthening of detente. And in this connection commentators are asking themselves: But will not the position adopted by the United States lead to the reverse, and is not U.S. diplomacy leading matters toward a confrontation instead of seeking solutions to pressing international problems?

...The assembly point is in the heart of the southern part of the Bronx, an area of abject poverty. Yesterday "people's delegates" of the UN General Assembly special session on disarmament, people of various political and religous convictions, of various skin colors and from various parts of the world, rallied here. They came to say a decisive "no" to the criminal arms race. A meeting began. Dr. William Schultz spoke.

"We have come here not as tourists but as victims of an evil called the arms race," Schultz said. "In our country, in 'overdeveloped America' wealth is worshiped but poverty is ignored, weapons are worshiped but the glaring needs of areas such as this are ignored. We say to the government and to the monopolies: You spend billions of dollars on bombs, but you are keeping millions of people in conditions like those which surround us in the south Bronx. We say to you, the powers that be: Our patience is not infinite.

SOVIET PROPOSALS ON DISARMAMENT SUBMITTED TO UNGA

LD302148Y Moscow TASS in English 2035 GMT 30 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 30, TASS--The Soviet proposals on practical ways of ending the arms race, submitted for consideration by the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament, have been published here.

In the opinion of the Soviet, Union, the time has come to give thought to the full termination of the further qualitative and quantitative growth of the armaments and armed forces of states possessing a big military potential and thereby create conditions for their subsequent reduction.

Since the main danger emanates from the growing arms race, the Soviet Union proposes that the special session of the United Nations Gerneral Assembly adopt a principled decision on the need to start talks on nuclear disarmament and on the question of the non-use of force, determine the order of preparing them and the concrete date of their commencement. The establishment of such a date will emphasize the firmness of intention of states to save mankind forever from the threat of nuclear war.

One of the most important tasks in ending the arms race is to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The solution of this task has gained substantial ground in the past decade starting with the conclusion of the treaty on nuclear nonproliferation. But not everything that is necessary has been done and, in the Soviet Union's opinion, further efforts are needed.

Linked with this question is another no less important one, that of the non-deployment of nuclear weapons on the territory of states where there are no nuclear weapons at present. The Soviet Union declares that it is prepared to undertake such an obligation and calls on all the other nuclear powers to act likewise.

The USSR also calls for a ban on the creation of new types and systems of weapons of mass annihilation. In the Soviet Union's opinion it is urgently necessary to take international actions that would finally prevent the appearance and deployment of the neutron weapon.

The task of ending the arms race, the Soviet Union believes, requires the speediest successful conclusion of the talks on this matter that are now being conducted on the bilateral, regional and international levels. These are talks on the limitation of strategic offensive weapons, on the general and complete prohibition of nuclear weapon tests, on prohibiting the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and the destruction of their stockpiles, on the prohibition of radiological weapons, on the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments, on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe, on the limitation and subsequent reduction of military activities in the Indian Ocean, on the limitation of international trade in and deliveries of conventional armaments.

In the Soviet Union's opinion it is necessary to strengthen existing international treaties and agreements directed at limiting the arms race, to ensure their universality and the participation in them of all states without exception. It is more than once that the United Nations General Assembly has called on all states to accede to existing treaties and agreements on the limitation of the arms race. The present situation demands that these calls be received with a universal positive response capable of becoming an expression of the unity of all states of the world in the striving to stop the arms race.

The USSR calls on states to reduce military budgets.

In submitting for consideration by the special session of the United Nations General Assembly its view on practical ways of stopping the arms race, the Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that these are minimum steps. Without their implementation the arms race will not be stopped. All these steps are attainable. They take into account the existing balance of forces and do not create for anyone unilateral advantages or benefits to the detriment of the security interests of others, the document notes.

Soviet Disarmament Policy

LD300110Y Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 29 May 78 LD

[Text] Nikolay Shishlin considers the most import aspects of the Soviet policy on disarmament. Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko elaborated on this policy in his speech before the special United Nations session on disarmament. Andrey Gromyko's speech was concrete and constructive. It contained many proposals to bring about practical action on the issue of disarmament. This attracted much attention at the session and outside. The NATO countries have shown quite a different approach. Their spokesmen at the session seemed to speak in favor of disarmament, but their governments are about to hold a meeting of the NATO Council to discuss a further arms buildup in the 80's. So we are left wondering what the NATO countries give priority to, continuation of the arms race or the possibility of disarmament.

The Soviet Union cannot be indifferent to its own security, naturally. History has taught us some bitter lessons, but the Soviet Union has never armed for the sake of arming. Its military policy has the sole purpose of protecting the Soviet frontiers and the frontiers of the Soviet Union's allies. In approaching the matter of disarmament the Soviet Union proceeds from the fact that a certain balance of strength has developed between the socialist and capitalist nations.

The Soviet Union believes this balance should be kept and step by step the two sides should cut back armed strength.

The Soviet Union is much interested in the successful completion of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. It is doing all it can to bring about an agreement acceptable to both sides that would not endanger the security of either or upset the practical balance of strength. The American participants in the SALT talks say the agreement is about 95 percent ready. At the moment, Foreign Minister Gromyko is duscussing what remains outstanding with American top officials. But frankly speaking, the agreement could have been completed long ago if not for the ambivalent American position. The White House seems to want an agreement, but it constantly looks over its shoulder at the opponents of agreement in America. There has been good progress at the talks for a comprehensive ban on nuclear testing, largely because the Soviet Union has agreed to on-site inspection on a voluntary basis and has proposed a moratorium on nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

Andrey Gromyko said in his speech there is ground for believing an agreement will emerge but its value, of course, will depend largely on whether all the nuclear powers associate themselves with it. Talks for a reduction in armed strength in central Europe continue in Vienna. But in all these years of negotiation there has been little progress. The Soviet Union proposed starting the reduction in the area by having the Soviet Union and the United States cut back their armed strength first and letting the other negotiators do the same later. There have been other constructive proposals too, but the talks have made no headway. The reason is the stand of the Western powers. They insist an equal reduction of armed strength would upset the balance, though it is known that the Soviet Union has not been building up its strength in central Europe and has no intention of doing so, not even by one tank or one soldier. The NATO countries, unfortunately have been acting quite differently. Nonetheless, the Soviet foreign minister voiced the hope the Western nations would give up efforts to get unilateral advantages, that the talks would be brought to a successful conclusion.

The Soviet Union has set the goal of stopping the dangerous race in arms and starting a cutback in arms stocks, with the view ultimately of bringing about disarmament. The Soviet Communist Party stressed this goal at its congress 2 years ago. Later President Brezhnev elaborated on this by making four important proposals: one, that the nations should stop the production of all types of nuclear weapons; two, that they should stop the production of all other weapons of wholesale annihilation and should ban these weapons; three, that the nations should stop developing conventional weapons with great destructive power; and four that the permament members of the United Nations Security Council and the countries connected with them by military agreements should stop enlarging their armies and increasing their conventional weapons. In short, the Soviet Union would like to see a full stop to both quantitative and qualitative growth of the armed strength of nations with great military potentials. This would lay the grounds for subsequent reduction of this strength.

The Soviet Union has put these proposals before the third special United Nations session on disarmament. The proposals make up a comprehensive plan for practical action toward disarmament. The NATO countries take a dim view of the plans. They have set their sights on a 15 year arms buildup, to include nuclear weapons. But the Soviet plan would promote international peace and security, so it serves the peoples of the capitalist nations as well as those of the socialist. There is a chance to stop the arms race. This in itself is something, now it depends largely on the Western nations, especially the United States, whether this chance will be acted on.

Delegates Support Proposals

LD311932Y Moscow TASS in English 1912 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 31 TASS--TASS correspondents Oleg Anichkin, Vladimir Matyash and Yuriy Romantsov report: The Soviet proposals aimed at ensuring a decisive breakthrough in the struggle for ending the arms race, for deepening and widening the relaxation of the international tensions evoke wide response and approval of delegates of the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament. The attention of the participants of the discussion was caught by the Soviet Union's peaceful initiatives aiming at curbing the mounting race of nuclear armaments and at banning development of new types and systems of mass destruction weapons.

In this connection, delegates of many countries supported the Soviet Union's call to take urgent measures on an international scale to prevent development and deployment of neutron weapons.

The People's Republic of the Congo expresses deep concern with the plans of creating neutron weapons, said the head of the Congolese delegation N. Okongo. We support the positive proposals of all peace-loving countries to ban production and use of neutron weapons. We also believe that strong efforts must be exerted to curb the nuclear arms race. This would be the symbol of the states' determination to widen the process of the relaxation of international tensions. The Congolese representative supported the Soviet Union's proposal to convene a world conference on disarmament.

Libya resolutely condemns the production of the neutron bomb and other such deadly weapons of mass destruction, said Libya's Permanent Representative at the United Nations Mansur Rashid al-Kikhiya. Those who declare in defence of "human rights" must not ignore the fact that stockpiling of armaments and plans of production of new types of weapons created expressly for the purpose of destroying humanity make pointless all the talk about "human rights."

Noting, specifically, that the Soviet Union's leadership expressed many times its concern over the arms race and demanded that it should be curbed, Libya's representative said that the Libyan Government fully agrees to the view that the priority task now is to avert nuclear war and destroy all types of nuclear weapons.

Morocco's State Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation M'hamed Boucetta pointed out that the special session must take concrete steps to curb the arms race and promote detente. He also said that the danger of Israel's acquiring nuclear weapons and its refusal to join the nuclear non-proliferation treaty threaten peace and international security in the Middle East.

The Soviet initiative for banning creation of new types and systems of mass destruction weapons has supported by representative of Mauritius Radha Krishna Ramphul. He said that implementation of this initiative will help arrest the arms race.

The tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki must never be repeated, said Japan's Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda. He stressed that it is necessary to take effective measures to halt the race of nuclear arms and then to start destroying their stockpiles. Universal banning of nuclear weapon tests must become the first concrete step in this sphere, Sunao Sonoda stressed.

IZVESTIYA CALLS FOR EEC COOPERATION WITH CEMA

LD311301Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 May 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[S. Zykov commentary: "Business Links"]

[Text] The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe was the point of departure for the all-round progress of Europe along the path of stable peace and for the exclusion of war from the life of the peoples. The final act signed at Helsinki created, in particular, the preconditions for a substantial expansion and activation among all the countries of our continent of diverse businesslike cooperation.

As a result, over the years that have elapsed since that time, the volume of trade has increased considerably, and the number of agreements on economic, scientific, technical and industrial cooperation between the socialist and capitalist countries of Europe has increased. This is evidenced, for example, by the growing and stronger economic links of the Soviet Union with France, the FRG, Britain and Belgium. Other CEMA member countries have also increased their exchanges with Common Market countries.

However, has everything been done in this direction?

Not at all. The leaders of the socialist countries of Europe have spoken about this on many occasions. Prominent figures from the West have pointed this out time and again.

The magazine IMPACT which is published in Brussels last year devoted a routine issue to questions of East-West trade. Belgian ministers and members of parliament and heads of trading and industrial companies wrote in it. They were all unanimous in their opinion that business relations between the CEMA and Common Market countries are mutually advantageous and that they help to enliven the economy and to improve the standard of living. They noted the reliability of the socialist countries as partners and the scrupulousness with which they fulfill their obligations.

Having come out in favor of the expansion of business contacts with the socialist countries, many of the authors complained of the obstacles which still exist along this path. They pointed to certain Common Market regulations, the discrimination vis-a-vis the socialist countries that has persisted since the cold war period and the absence of the necessary links between the EEC and CEMA.

It is indeed a pressing problem. In the past CEMA has displayed initiative in solving this problem. Proposals were put to the EEC concerning the reaching of agreement in the spirit of Helsinki. It was a question of the mutual granting of most-favored-nation status, the development of businesslike cooperation on an equal basis without discrimination and the elimination of prohibitions and restrictions on exports and imports. However, the Common Market leaders avoided discussing them. They presented a counterproposal consisting merely of the organization of an exchange of information on economic problems.

Taken together, CEMA and the EEC account for more than half of world industrial production and world exports. Hence the great significance of the establishment of fruitful contacts between them for the purpose of putting into practice as fully as possible the propositions and accords of the all-European conference can be understood. The people of both Eastern and Western Europe have an equal interest in this.

WEST'S HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN COVERS DESIRE TO INTERFERE

LD311539Y Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 22, Signed to Press 25 May 78 p 5 LD

[Article by V. Borisov: "Behind a Screen of Demagoguery and Hypocrisy"]

[Text] Recently the impression has been growing that highly-placed politicians in the West have put aside other matters and have launched into the study of the final act of the all-European conference in Helsinki and, chiefly, the provisions relating to the safeguarding of human rights.

Such interest in the final act and concern for human rights should be welcomed, you might think. At last the West has decided to deal seriously with the unemployment problem--in fact, by the beginning of 1978 more than 18 million people in the developed capitalist countries were unable to apply their strength and capabilities. However, as was noted in the documents of the Fifth Session of the UN General Assembly, "a person deprived of his economic and social rights and his rights in the cultural sphere is no longer the individual which the general declaration regards as the ideal free man."

Or maybe the American authorities have at last taken notice of such a shameful phenomenon as racial discrimination against millions of blacks, Indians, Chicanos and Puerto Ricans? Perhaps Washington has heeded the widespread protests throughout the world and decided to release the "Wilmington ten" and to revoke the death penalty on John Harris, which was imposed purely because he advocated equal rights for Negroes and whites, and the life sentence on poetess and prominent public figure Assata Shakur?

Or perhaps British ministers have finally decided to grant civil rights to the entire population of Northern Ireland, to put a stop to the police terror in the province and withdraw the 15,000-man occupation force or to assume the responsibility for establishing African majority rule in Rhodesia?

Maybe the leading Western powers have suddenly stopped supporting the fascist junta in Chile, which is responsible for the murder of thousands of patriots, and has started supporting the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, which have been violated for more than 30 years by the Israeli aggressors?

No. They worry little about these problems. In fact, the Western politicians' concern for "human rights" is very one-sided. It reflects a desire to interfere in the socialist countries' internal affairs. Western imperialist circles are trying essentially to suggest that, for example, the Soviet Union or Czechoslovakia should implement their internal laws. They turn to the final act of the Helsinki conference merely to "legalize" this interference and attach a certain respectability to it.

However, this document clearly states that current international relations must be based on respect for the sovereignty, system and laws of all states and noninterference in their internal affairs.

The powers that be in the West are fully aware of the danger of the foundations of their dominion posed by the capitalist countries' working people's comparison of their unequal situation with the opportunities offered by the socialist system. So, in an attempt to belittle the achievements and gains of socialism, the ideologists and politicians of capitalism organize a provocative ballyhoo about the so-called "violation" of human rights in the socialist countries. To what end? To distract the attention of the broad masses from the ugly rights situation in the capitalist world, to cast doubts on detente, to exacerbate international tension and stimulate the arms race.

But, since there are no instances of the "violation" of human rights in the Soviet Union, the masters of misinformation and lies "organize" them by resorting to the services of turncoats like the criminal Bukovskiy or the professional anti-Soviet Orlov, who are depicted as persecuted "rights defenders."

Incidentally, while the self-styled "champions of human rights" in Washington, Paris and Brussels were shedding tears about Orlov, who was convicted in accordance with the law for anti-Soviet activity, dozens of American military transport aircraft were flying in thousands of French and Belgian paratroopers to bloodily suppress the people's uprising in Zaire's Shaba Province. The smokescreen of demagogic accusations about the violation of human rights in the Soviet Union has served as a cover for the NATO countries actual intervention in an African country.

USSR DELEGATE SPEAKS AT SECURITY COUNCIL MIDEAST SESSION

LD010946Y Moscow TASS in English 0934 GMT 1 Jun 78 LD

[Text] New York, June 1, TASS--The Security Council has extended for another six months, until November 30, 1978, the stay of the UN disengagement observer force on the Golan Heights. In its decision, adopted in this connection, the council expressed concern over the existing tension in this region and stressed the urgent need of continuing and stepping up the efforts to establish a lasting and durable peace in the Middle East.

The entire course of developments in the Middle East, it was noted in his speech by the Permanent Representative of the USSR on the United Nations Oleg Troyanovskiy, confirms clearly the correctness of the repeated warnings served by the Soviet Union that lack of a settlement in the Middle East, continuing Israeli occupation of Arab lands, violation of the lawful national rights of the Arab people of Palestine create an explosive situation, fraught with new military clashes. The recent outright Israeli aggression against the Lebanon has shown patently once again the dangers that result from the dragging out of a settlement of the Middle Eastern conflict.

The Soviet Union, the Soviet representative stressed, has called attention more than once to the fact that only those who are striving for the sake of their selfish goals to keep up a tense situation in the Middle East can oppose the achievement of comprehensive settlement, delay the solution of this problem.

The imperialist circles believe, apparently, that preservation of the present situation in the Middle East corresponds to their long-term plans to tighten their control over the Middle-East region, over its tremendous oil resources and important strategic positions. Precisely for this reason they would like to weaken the Arab states as far as possible, to divert them from the road of progressive social development, to set them at loggerheads and to compel them to act separately.

The Soviet Union does not conceal its negative attitude to the policy and actions of certain states, aimed at replacing a comprehensive Middle East settlement by separate deals. Any attempts to solve questions of Middle Eastern settlement by means of separate deals might harm the vital interests of all the peoples of the region. The course of events shows convincingly that separate negotiations do not bring closer, but rather make even more distant the prospect of a settlement in the Middle East.

In the opinion of the Soviet delegation, the stay of United Nations armed forces in the Middle East is of a purely temporary nature and should not be used to put off a comprehensive settlement in this region.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONVENTION INSTRUMENT DEPOSITED BY USSR

LD312058Y Moscow TASS in English 1934 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 31 TASS--The instrument of ratification by the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the convention on the prohibition of action to influence the environment and climate for military and other purposes incompatiable with the maintenance of international security, human wellbeing and health was deposited here with the United Nations secretary-general.

HAVANA MEETING CONFIRMS IMPORTANCE OF NONALINED MOVEMENT

LD311005Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 May 78 Morning Edition P 3 LD

[V. Vernikov article: "A Positive Contribution"]

[Text] The sixth session of the Coordinating Bureau of Nonalined Countries at foreign minister level has ended in Havana. This was a consultative conference on the eve of the meeting of nonalined countries' foreign ministers to be held in Belgrade in July, a meeting which will in turn be one of the concluding stages in preparation for the Sixth Conference of Heads of State and Government of Nonalined Countries, which is planned for the Cuban capital next year.

Analysis of the present international situation and the role of the nonalined movement in the struggle against imperialism and neocolonialism, and the defense of peace occupied the main place in the discussions at the session. An important aspect of the session's work was the examination of economic cooperation between nonalined countries and their relations with developed capitalist countries, in connection with the intensification of the exploitation of developing states by the industrially developed West.

Great attention was devoted to the problem of decolonization, the struggle against racism, racial discrimination and Zionism and the consolidation of anti-imperialist solidarity in the struggle for the freedom and independence of oppressed peoples. As is well known, the UN General Assembly special session, which opened on 23 May, is devoted to questions of disarmament. The participants in the Havana session called for effective measures aimed at ending the arms race, and above all the production of nuclear weapons.

The nonalined movement plays an important part in international life today, and the Havana session fully confirmed this. Its participants condemned the hostile actions and economic pressure by the forces of imperialism with respect to Latin American countries and demanded a speedy and unconditional end to the U.S. blockade of Cuba and the return to that country of part of its territory occupied by a U.S. naval base--Guantanamo.

The final communique, adopted unanimously, resolutely condemns imperialist attempts to undermine the national liberation struggle in Africa and cause dissent among neighboring countries on that continent.

The attention of the session which has just finished was focused on really important and acute problems. The realistic approach to their solution displayed by the members of the Coordinating Bureau provides further evidence of the positive role played by the nonalinement movement in maintaining world peace and in the struggle against imperialism and neocolonialism for the sake of a better future for all peoples.

INTERNATIONAL RESISTANCE FIGHTERS CONGRESS ENDS IN MINSK

LD262023Y Moscow TASS in English 1857 GMT 26 May 78 LD

[Text] Minsk, May 26, TASS--The 8th Congress of the International Federation of Resistance Fighters ended today in the capital of Belorussia, Minsk.

In the declaration adopted by the congress, which lasted three days and was attended by representatives of Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America, the federation reiteratd its dedication to the struggle against fascism and war, its loyalty to the ideals of freedom and human dignity, justice and peace, for which resistance fighters had fought.

Congress noted with satisfaction that "the signing of the final act of the Helsinki conference consolidated the successes of international detente throughout the world, particularly in Europe.

At the same time, the declaration points out, there are still active forces, spearheaded against progress and against understanding among peoples, forces which threaten the peaceful future of mankind. "These forces frequently preach the ideology of fascism, seek to deny the crimes perpetrated by fascists and their accomplices and to rehabilitate them. They encourage the activities and provocations by neofascists, terrorist and racist groups, oppose the decisions of the Nuremberg tribunal and slander the movement of the resistance fighters and champions of the anti-Hitler coalition," notes the declaration.

The congress called for stronger unity with all the organisations of resistance fighters and war veterans, for developing cooperation and solidarity with other forces prepared to uphold the independence of their motherland, freedom and peace.

In addition to the general declaration, the congress addressed a message to the special session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament, adopted the declaration "for strengthening international detente, for disarmament," the resolution "for banning the neutron bomb," a "declaration against neofascism, neonazism and terrorist activities," the declaration "for strengthening security and cooperation in Europe," a resolution concerning the restoration of the civil rights of Greek emigrees--participants in the Greek civil war.

GROMOYKO HOLDS TALKS IN NEW YORK WITH CYRUS VANCE

LD010832Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0733 GMT 1 Jun 78 LD

[Text] New York, 1 June--Andrey Gromyko, USSR minister of foreign affairs, has had a conversation with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. A discussion took place on a number of matters pertaining to Soviet-American relations, including those connected with limiting strategic offensive weapons. It was agreed to continue the exchange of views.

KORIONOV ATTACKS BRZEZINSKI AS 'ENEMY OF DETENTE'

LD010905Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 May 78 p 5 LD

[Political observer Vitaliy Korionov article: "With a Sore Head"]

[Text] The intervention by a number of NATO countries in Zaire generated active protests among the world public. Its nature was perfectly obvious. The pretext of giving "help to save people" was used to conceal aggression by the imperialist forces in Zaire.

The organizers of the invasion are also well known. Washington is making no secret of the fact that Gen A. Haig, the American NATO supreme allied commander, Europe, who had instructions from the highest U.S. Government levels, participated directly in the implementation of the invasion operation, as the 29 May issue of NEWSWEEK noted. The people received yet another graphic confirmation of the aims of the North Atlantic bloc and who directs its actions. Naturally, everyone who cherishes the cause of peace and freedom considers this criminal act a disgrace.

Accused by the people, those guilty of the intervention are trying to shift the responsibility from themselves by resorting to the most flagrant distortion of the truth. Among these attempts, in particular, is Z. Brzezinski's interview broadcast on American television a few days ago.

The U.S. presidential adviser on national security questions declared that the "Cuban Government and to a certain extent the Soviet Government" are responsible for "the violation of Zaire's territorial integrity." Flying into a rage, he also tried to implicate the GDR in this. Brzezinski did not attempt to give any evidence to support his assertions. And this is understandable--there simply is no such evidence. It is no coincidence that that the word "perhaps" appeared in his speech several times. When there is no substance, it is necessary to resort to such "proof"....

There is no need to refute Brzezinski's fabrications. The Soviet Union did not participate in the events in Zaire. There has never been a Soviet citizen in that country with weapons in his hands. The USSR adheres strictly to the principles of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries, and this applies fully to Zaire.

Nor are there Cuban soldiers or military specialists in Zaire. The Cuban Government has frequently stated this. This was also acknowledged in essence by the official representatives of countries whose military units are committing outrages in Zaire, and also by Washington. The accusations against Cuba are so unfounded that the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee asked the administration to supply some kind of proof of the actions attributed to Cuba.

Making up cock-and-bull stories about the USSR and its socialist allies, Mr Brzezinski also pretended that the fall in the pace of detente "alarms" him. True to form, he is trying to lay the blame for this on the USSR, too. Facts? There are none this time either. He substitutes all kinds of fabrications for facts--for example, that the Soviet Union "is trying to obtain direct access to the Indian Ocean" or that it "is stepping up its concentration of forces along the Chinese border."

It is no coincidence that the adviser to the American President brought up the question of China. He has just returned from Peking where he was received with open arms. Z. Brzezinski does not conceal the reasons for this. He declares that the United States and China have "common very important overlapping interests." It is true that he prefers not to specify this aspect of the question. But it is, of course, obvious. The world has already frequently observed such a "coincidence" in the joint actions of Washington and Peking against people's Angola, in support of the Chilean fascist junta and in the aid to those who tried to dismember Ethiopia. This list could be continued.

No, Z. Brzezinski is trying in vain to don the toga of an advocate of "normal relations between countries." His fabrications represent precisely the "poisonous propaganda campaign" of which he so unjustly accuses the Soviet Union. Z. Brzezinski's true position was again confirmed in the report just broadcast by AP that he is exerting pressure on U.S. Secretary for Health, Education and Welfare Califano to abandon his planned trip to the USSR.

Thus Z. Brzezinski stands before the world as an enemy of detente and an opponent of international cooperation.

McGovern Criticism

LD010005Y Moscow TASS in English 2108 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington, May 31, TASS--Noted U.S. politician, George McGovern has sharply criticised the recent anti-Soviet remarks made by Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Zbigniew Brzezinski. As was earlier reported, Brzezinski, appearing on Meet the Press television program made statements grossly distorting the process of international detente and presenting the foreign policy of the USSR and Cuba in a false light.

President Carter's national security advisor Brzezinski, George McGovern stated, is apparently determined on a foreign policy of crisis and confrontation. Watching Mr Brzezinski on Meet the Press last Sunday, we can only conclude that in his mind the Soviet and the Cubans are 19-feet tall and about to take over the planet. He has apparently concluded that the primary battle for world supremacy is to be fought in the jungles of Africa with the Cubans and the Russians arrayed against the Americans and the Chinese.

Brzezinski's decision to brief the Chinese in detail on our strategic arms and discussions with the Soviet Union, the Senator said, was a strange, if not foolish tactic. If it was designed to infuriate the Soviets, thus making more difficult the task of arms negotiations, it has doubtless done that. If it was designed to depict Mr Brzezinski as a thoughtful, responsible and sensitive national security adviser, it has not done that.

The world is dangerous enough without inviting new dangers that exist only in the mind of the beholder. The sky did not fall, no matter how passionately Brzezinski proclaimed it.

Foreign policy must be selective in centering upon the few fundamental interests of the nation--not the sideshows and minor distractions. We cannot believe that uncertain questions are more important than a strategic arms agreement designed to save humanity from nuclear catastrophe.

Touching on Brzezinski's discourse about the fictitious "threat" from the Soviet Union, the Senator said: At a time when Western military outlays are rising, when Mr Brzezinski treats China as a NATO auxiliary and global arms spending is on the increase, where else would one expect the Soviets to concentrate their forces if not on their common borders with Europe and China?

We may not like what the Soviets are saying about our capitalistic system, but doubtless they are not entirely enthusiastic either as we inveigh against the "brutal, godless communists." Mr Brzezinski speaks of Soviet efforts "to stir up racial difficulties in Africa," but does anyone seriously believe that the Russians introduced racism to Africa or even that they are a major cause of the racial tension that marks that former domain of the white European colonizers? It is preposterous, the Senator underlines, to assume that the African states struggling to be born represent fundamental security concerns for the United States simply because a few of them have the support of Cuba or Moscow. We might prefer that Ethiopia and Angola not have Marxist governments, but there is little we can do about it in any event. There has been no fundamental American interest threatened by anything either the Cubans or the Soviets have done or are likely to do in Africa, the Senator underlines. While Mr Brzezinski is ringing his hands over alleged Soviet and Cuban "misbehavior" in Africa, he might do well to recall the calamity we perpetrated for so many years in Indochina.

George McGovern believes that the interest of the United States is better served by "quiet, patient negotiations with the Soviets rather than bombastic ultimatums and alarmist cries." We would be better advised to see the Russians as our fellow residents on this planet that lives in the shadow of a nuclear Armaggedon. We need not love the Russians nor even admire them--nor they us--to know that the alternative to arms control and detente is the bankruptcy and death of civilization.

U.S. OFFICIALS SUPPORT SALT ACCORD, ARMS CONTROL

LD311001Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 May 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[V. Gan, Yu. Levchenko dispatch: "Americans in Favor of Detente"]

[Text] Washington--An increasing number of eminent American politicians and statesmen are actively supporting detente, and in particular, of the speediest conclusion of a new Soviet-American strategic arms limitation (SALT) agreement.

Senator G. McGovern described as "extremely encouraging" the results of a Louis Harris public opinion poll, which showed that the overwhelming majority of Americans favor the policy of detente, the normalization of Soviet-American relations and the reaching of a new SALT agreement.

"I consider it very gratifying that the efforts of two countries to resolve a question of vital importance to the very existence of manking--namely, the question of whether the two greatest powers in the world, the USSR and United States, can find a practical way to curb the arms race--has the full support of the overwhelming majority of Americans," he stated when addressing the Senate. "When the time comes for the Senate to discuss the new Soviet-American SALT agreement, which serves the interests of both sides, we will have to note that the Senate takes account of these strong feelings in favor of peace reigning in the hearts of Americans."

G. McGovern also drew attention to the fact that Americans desisively reject the attempts by certain U.S. political circles to link progress at the SALT talks or steps to normalize Soviet-American trade with other secondary issues which bear no relation to them.

The conclusion of a new Soviet-American SALT agreement serves the national interests of the USSR and United States and will serve the cause of stabilizing relations between the two great powers. This opinion was expressed by Arms Control and Disarmament Agency Director P. Warnke, leader of the American delegation at the SALT talks. The inability to reach an agreement, Warnke says, could lead to the stepping up of the nuclear arms race with all the negative consequences stemming from this. The leader of the U.S. delegation assessed the Soviet position highly, noting that the Soviet Union has undertaken "extremely important steps" toward reaching an agreement. Eventual understanding on strategic arms limitation, Warnke stressed, will make a substantial contribution to strengthening the security of the USSR and the United States.

The need to curb the nuclear arms race is becoming increasingly apparent to broad strata of the U.S. population. J. Quinn, head of the U.S. Catholic Church, has appealed to the American Government to make constructive proposals to control the arms race. He pointed out that the nuclear arms race is fraught with grave dangers for the population. Mankind, Quinn stated, must be freed from this threat hanging over it. In connection with the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament being held in New York, Quinn stressed that all its participants must use "the present moment to elaborate measure to reduce the arms race."

LEGISLATORS IGNORE PUBLIC OPINION, FUND NEUTRON WEAPONS

LD310847Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 May 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Washington, 26 May TASS--The Senate Armed Services Committee has approved a bill authorizing the U.S. President to produce neutron weapons. Funding is provided in the fiscal 1979 appropriations bill approved by the committee, which includes some $3 billion for the improvement of all types of nuclear weapons. The authorization bill was previously passed by the House of Representatives.

Thus the U.S. legislators have totally ignored the opinion of the U.S. and world public, who are resolutely demanding that Washington ban the neutron bomb and other variants of barbaric weapons of mass destruction once and for all.

POST TRIES TO LINK USSR TRADE DEALS WITH ZAIRIAN EVENTS

LD311502Y Moscow TASS in English 1418 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 31, TASS--TASS correspondent Aleksandr Sashin writes: Western mass media has lately been making inglorious attempts to smear the Soviet Union by harping on hackneyed verions of the USSR's alleged involvement in the internal conflict in Zaire. The aim of these concoctions is to distract the attention of the world public from actions of the NATO member-countries, which are carrying out a broad armed intervention in Zaire.

The American newspaper Washington POST has been no exception. In one of its latest issues the newspaper carried an "innocent" article on the world trade in cobalt. In the article it is groundlessly asserted that the Soviet Union, obviously foreseeing the events in Zaire, has in the recent time made big purchases of that commodity. The newspaper tries to lend a political colouring to conventional trade deals which foreign trade organizations of the USSR conduct in the world market.

Meanwhile, in the Western press it has been reported that exactly the United States now has cobalt reserves for more than 4 years ahead, and more than 70 per cent of the quantity has been imported from Zaire, really "an uneasy conscience betrays itself", as the proverb says.

TESTIMONY AT SENATE HEARINGS OPPOSES ANGOLAN INVOLVEMENT

LD310949Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 May 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Washington TASS--The resumption of broad U.S. aid to the puppets of the National Front for the Liberation of Angola [FNLA] and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], which are trying to subvert the legitimate government of Angola, will have disastrous consequences. This is the conclusions of the participants in hearings in the Senate African Affairs subcommittee, who voiced profound concern over the U.S. administration's intention to clear the way for new overt of covert interference in Angolan affairs.

To this end the administration is now seeking to remove Senator R. Clark's amendment prohibiting U.S. interference in Angola. R. Clark, chairman of the Senate African Affairs Subcommittee, was recently visited by CIA Director S. Turner and D. Aaron, deputy to Z. Brezezinski, the President's assistant for national security affairs, who tried to secure the Senator's agreement to renew support for the pro-Western antipopular groups in Angola.

By all accounts, Prof Bender of the University of California, an eminent U.S. Africanist, emphasized at the hearings, the U.S. administration has not learned any lessons from the past, which has shown the "futility of attempts to resolve international problems through military interference," and is now preparing to repeat "a costly and tragic mistake" by clearing the way for new intervention in Angola. Bender called on the Congress to say a decisive "no" to the plans of the U.S."hawks" and to prevent new U.S. militery interference in Africa.

Stockwell, former leader of the CIA group on Angola, who broke with the U.S. espionage agency as a sign of protest against the "dirty methods" of its work, and who also spoke at the hearings, reported that the CIA continues to cherish plans for subversive activities against the legitimate government of the People's Republic of Angola. Thus, he said, plans are being sought for generous military support for the Angolan renegades entrenched in Zaire.

The U.S. administration, Stockwell emphasized, has refused to cooperate with the United Nations and the OAU in resolving the Angolan problem, having adopted a policy of confrontation with the USSR, which has given the legitimate government of the People's Republic of Angola assistance in repulsing aggression.

Stockwell's recently published book reports that the CIA spent $31.7 million on its "Angolan operation" and that Holden Roberto and Savimbi, the FNLA and UNITA "leaders," were recruited CIA agents, who were paid by this agency for attempting to seize power in Luanda and to establish a pro-U.S. regime.

Intervention Expected

LD010942Y Moscow TASS in English 0918 GMT 1 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 1, TASS--The TASS political commentator, Sergey Kulik, writes: Neocolonialist quarters in the West, above all, in the United States, are hatching plans to switch their military intervention from Zaire to the territories of neighbouring independent states.

One of the manifestations of this aggressive course has been the armed provocations of the Zaire Army and white mercenaries against Zambia.

Judging from the foreign press, however, the main blow is to be struck on people's Angola, which has long been an objective for unceasing intrigues and provocations on the part of the United States and its allies. Motivating their aggressive designs by refuted allegations that Angolan territory had been used to prepare for the uprising in Shaba, the Washington "hawks" bluntly call for a punitive operation from Zaire territory against the progressive regime of the MPLA-Workers' Party in Angola.

Analyzing the moods in the American administration, the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR drew the conclusion that someone in the White House now advocates another operation to shed blood in Angola, while the Washington POST was still more specific, saying that the U.S. administration is moving towards another intervention in Angola. It is precisely with this object in view that it is now pressing our cancellation of the Senator R. Clark Amendment, banning U.S. intervention in Angola.

At the same time the United States renders generous financial assistance to all anti-Angolan forces. Thus, according to the Nigerian press, the Central Intelligence Agency transferred over 1.5 million dollars to Zaire President Mobutu for an anti-Angolan campaign. On the plan of "rescuing hostages", allegedly carried by Zaire rebels from Shaba to Angola, the Zaire authorities are moving Foreign Legionnaires and mercenaries to the Angolan frontier. "If the information about the hostages is confirmed, the problem of pursuit arises with a possible participation of French paratroopers in an incursion into Angola", the newspaper QUOTIDIENNE DE PARIS admitted in an article, significantly headlined "War in Zarie May Assume Wider Scope."

It is also noteworthy that Peking plays not the least role in the anti-Angolan campaign. China's sinister foreign policy, says a statement issued by the Revolutionary Council of the People's Republic of Angola, the supreme organ of state power in Angola, is revealed in its full support of the policy of the imperialist forces and also in arms deliveries to Zaire and the Angolan splitters' groups.

To cut short the imperialist provacations, the Revolutionary Council called upon all the Angolan people to strengthen the bonds of solidarity and cooperation with the socialist states, to reinforce in every way the defences of the country and to nip in the bud any attempt at internal counter-revolution.

PENTAGON HAS 'INSATIABLE' APPETITE FOR ARMS PROGRAM FUNDS

LD311343Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 May 78 p 3 LD

[V. Berezin article: "The Pentagon's Insatiable Appetite"]

[Text] "Three things are necessary to wage war--money, money and more money." Recently quoting the words of one of the advisors to the French King Louis XII, the New York TIMES newspaper noted: "The person who gave this advice in 1499 has many supporters in the Pentagon in 1978."

Indeed, every year the American military demands more and more dollars to implement its vast militarist plans. And the Pentagon's insatiable appetite, as the facts show, is fully satisfied even in excess of its demands. Thus, for fiscal 1979 (which begins 1 October) the Carter administration requested a record sum for the U.S. Defense Department--$128.4 billion. But Congress went further and added another $300 million, thereby bringing the Pentagon's regular budget to $128.7 billion.

The rapid increase in the U.S. military budget must in itself generate alarm among the progressive world public. If we look more closely at its main articles, the dangerous trends in Washington's military policy become even clearer. In fact, according to figures from U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, a substantial proportion of the Pentagon's appropriations are allocated to the elaboration and production of new types of offensive weapons and the development of strategic weapons.

Indeed, this week the U.S. House of Representatives allocated $38 billion to the war department for weapons purchases. It is typical that this is $2.4 billion more than was planned. The resources just allocated by the congressmen will be spent in fiscal 1979. They far from cover all U.S. spending on arms. According to a recent review by the Defense Department, on 31 March 1978 the overall cost of the programs for the development and creation of just 51 major weapons systems exceeds $202 billion.

In order to justify this incredible expenditure in the eyes of the public, top Pentagon officials love to blame inflation for causing an increase in the cost of implementing military programs. U.S. Vice President W. Mondale tried to make such a reference to inflation in his speech at the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament in which, in spite of indisputable facts, he asserted that the American military budget "has not increased in real terms" since the end of the fifties.

The fact that the U.S. economy is experiencing chronic inflation is no secret to anyone. But it is not the main reason for the sharp increase in military appropriations. Their growth is mainly connected with the creation of new types of weapons and with the desire of the military-industrial monopolies to extract the maximum profit. And the Pentagon is willingly meeting them halfway.

Attention is drawn to the future Pentagon budget and the article on "military construction." According to this article it is allocated $4.5 billion, approximately $1 billion more than in the current fiscal year. The main proportion of these resources is allocated to constructing new or modernizing old military bases. And the United States already has over 1,000 such bases scattered throughout the world. Particular attention here is drawn to regions near the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, primarily in Western Europe.

Money, money and more money, as recent events show, is being drawn by the Pentagon from the federal budget for the unrestrained stockpiling of arms. The dangerous nature of such a course is particularly striking today during the meetings of the special UN General Asembly session called upon to play an important role in lessening military danger.

MOBILE STRIKE FORCE AIRBORNE VERSION OF GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY

LD310852Y Moscow in English to North America 2330 GMT 30 May 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The United States is reported to be developing an elite strikeforce which could be rushed at short notice to any part of the world. The purpose for such a strikeforce, according to American military strategists, is to insure that in a foreign trouble spot American poser should be able to arrive first to deal with any emergency situation. Here is comment by our observer.

To be sure, the idea to develop such a strike force is nothing new to American strategists. A quarter of a century since the Korean war, several brush-fire taskforces have reached the drawing board, and even the training stage, only to be scrapped for various reasons. Now it looks as though the new administration is once again restoring high priority to this concept.

The decision to do so stems from White House reassessment of war dangers that the United States is most likely to face in the decade ahead. It's noteworthy that the reassessment rates a Soviet nuclear attack on the United States, much talked about in the press, as the least likely danger. A Soviet drive to overrun Europe is also viewed as a remote threat. A different threat is spotlighted by United States strategic analysts, and that is the emergence of local forces in various parts of the world that would be hostile to the United States. Four potential trouble spots are listed where American strategists think quick-reaction military units might be sent in the future. They are South Korea, Western Europe, eastern Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf area. Of particular concern to the United States at present seems to be the oil rich Mideast and the Persian Gulf area.

According to one Pentagon scenario at a time or crisis, however, it's understood in Washington the American strikeforce is to establish a beach head in a foreign country and is to hold out there for as long as it's necessary to normalize the situation. To normalize would imply of course for the country involved to knuckle under American pressure in order to meet American standards of a friendly government.

Another scheme calls for the United States to take over one of the big Israeli airfields in the Sinai desert as part of an Israeli-Egyptian peace agreement. Thus, a permanent American military presence may be established in the area. Whether the United States will implement such plans to the full remains to be seen. Should that happen it seems no country in the Middle East, or anywhere else for that matter, could feel safe from a possible American airborne operation ostensibly spearheaded against any unwelcome developments in that country. Welcome or unwelcome developments would be, of course, measured by an American yardstick.

Meanwhile, the units specially trained for their rapid reaction role are said to be ready in a high state of readiness. The core of their strikeforce will consist initially of heavily armed air assault units and one Marine Corps division, all ready to be dispatched to any part of the world on short notice.

A taste of what it could be really like was sampled recently in connection with the developments in Zaire. The 82d Airborne Division, which is part of the original American strikeforce, was put on alert expecting to be airlifted across the Atlantic. Its dispatch was apparently forestalled by an earlier French and Belgian intervention. If this time around the United States was spared the necessity of actually dispatching troops to a foreign country it was nevertheless obliged to provide material support for its NATO partners, establishing the air bridge to Zaire with a fleet of its military transport planes.

With the creation of its rapid-reaction strikeforce the United States seems to have hit upon a modified version of the gunboat diplomacy. Although in this case it looks more like airborne diplomacy, the essence is basically the same, and that is to project United States power ashore far from the American territory and make it known that the United States might not necessarily sit back, watching idly, developments in foreign countries that are not to its liking. Indeed, it may decide to intervene directly, as it was about to do in Zaire. Like the gunboat approach, the new concept in American military planning apparently places high stakes on the intimidation factor involved in the concept, the threat to use force against anyone who doesn't conform to the basic tenets in United States political thinking. Just let it be known that the United States is not in a joking mood should anyone decide to deviate. Punishment will be prompt and irrevocable, that's what the rapid-reaction strikeforce seems to be all about.

Along with positive aspects to the new military concept, some Pentagon officials concede they see also drawbacks. One of the most important among them is that an American strikeforce couldn't seize objective control of a given area in the face of determined opposition from local authorities other than committing large troop contingents into action. And, as the Vietnam experience has shown, even that perhaps is not the answer. While some of the post-Vietnam hard feelings should just as well be forgotten, it would certainly pay not to neglect some of its lessons. The rapid reaction concept in the United States military planning seems to have all the makings to turn an American airborne operation in some area into a Tonkin Gulf disaster with all the consequences.

BERGLAND FAVORS COOPERATION WITH USSR IN AGRICULTURE

LD311320Y Moscow TASS in English 1304 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington, May 31, TASS--Boris Ivanov, a TASS correspondent, reports: Robert Bergland, U.S. secretary of agriculture, returned to the United States after a tour of several countries. During the tour he visited the Soviet Union. In an interview with the TASS correspondent, Robert Bergland said he is deeply satisfied with the results of the visit to the Soviet Union and of the talks with Soviet leaders. He said that during numerous frank conversations which were held in a friendly atmosphere, the U.S. delegation had an opportunity to exchange opinions with Soviet counterparts on topical problems of the development of agriculture and on agricultural cooperation matters which are of interest to the two countries. The U.S. delegation were greatly impressed by the sincerity of Soviet counterparts and their deep interest in strengthening and further developing Soviet-U.S. bilateral cooperation.

The U.S. secretary of agriculture pointed out that Soviet-U.S. contacts in the sphere of agriculture have considerably expanded in recent years. Within the framework of the existing agreements the two countries exchange scientific and technical information, and conduct joint experimental-and-research work to improve the technology of individual agricultural processes. The U.S. delegation's view is that such form of cooperation meets the interests of both the Soviet Union and the United States. In this connection, of much importance are regular contacts between scientific and technical specialists and representatives of the planning institutions. He said Soviet specialists conduct a whole number of interesting experiments in the fields of genetics, land reclamation and agronomy. The research results obtained in the USSR play a considerable role in the choice of an optimum direction of the further development of agriculture. American specialists have something to learn from Soviet scientists, particularly in the area of genetics.

Robert Bergland said he is sincerely grateful to the Soviet counterparts for the given opportunity to make the tour of the country and see for himself the state of agriculture in the USSR. Over the past decade, the Soviet Union has made great strides in boosting agricultural production. This in many respects is promoted by the mechanisation and automation of individual agricultural processes, which are widely used by Soviet specialists. Soviet agriculture is provided with first-rate equipment. Tractors, harvestors, motor-vehicle fleet, and planes of agriculture aviation can well vie with the newest specimens of farm machinery of Western countries.

Touching upon the prospects for the further Soviet-U.S. agricultural cooperation, the U.S. secretary of agriculture pointed out that there exist good opportunities for the development of contacts between the two countries. Robert Bergland emphasized that a deepening of bilateral mutually-beneficial cooperation equally meets the interests of both the Soviet Union and the USA, and expressed the hope that the two sides will make the maximum of effort to achieve progress in this field.

CONDUCT OF GUIDES AT U.S. EXHIBIT IN KIEV CRITICIZED

LD261734Y Moscow in English to North America 0030 GMT 26 May 78 LD

[Text] Agriculture in the United States is of particular interest to specialists in the field here. The United States agricultural exhibition that just recently closed in Kiev, capital of the Ukraine, naturally attracted many people and could have been highly successful not only on the professional plane but as a means of furthering understanding between Soviets and Americans--could have been but was not, says observer Leonid Fedorov. Here are his reasons:

For the past several years there has been a marked effort on the part of both the Soviet and United States governments to increase activities furthering mutual understanding between the two countries. The exchange of exhibitions has proven to be one of the most effective measures, allowing--as exhibitions do--for the closest possible thing to actually coming into direct contact with a given aspect of a country's life. All in all, such exchanges have played a very positive role, furnishing insight and understanding. However, there have been exceptions to the rule. A case in point is the United States agricultural exhibition in Kiev. Both specialists and nonspecialists found the exhibits to be highly interesting insofar as giving a detailed picture of present-day agriculture in America is concerned.

But this good impression was all but wiped out by what can at best be called the strange behavior of many United States guides. Officially they are there to help visitors get a clear picture of farming in America. These guides had obviously been instructed to forget about such minor things as the hicks in the sticks. Rather they were briefed on how, and then told to antagonize visitors and tried to contact people who would play their game. Naturally enough this did not help the cause of Soviet-American friendship. In addition to that the exhibits' director, contrary to established tradition, refused to grant any interviews to Soviet journalists concerning the results of the exhibit. Thus, a possibility to improve relations on a people-to-people basis was not only missed but was misused. To say the least it is something to be regretted.

NEW EVIDENCE EXPOSES FBI CONSPIRACY AGAINST KING

LD291452Y Moscow TASS in English 1407 GMT 29 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 29, TASS--Ever new facts are brought to light testifying that the Federal Bureau of Investigation tried to make short work with all means at its disposal of outstanding black American leader Martin Luther King. As seen from FBI papers, which got into the hands of the private Centre for National Security Studies, the American secret service recruited a "black American leader," whose name is not mentioned, in order to remove King from the national arena. Meeting this collaborationist, an FBI high-ranking official discussed ways for the elimination of Martin Luther King either through his physical destruction or through compromising him in the eyes of progressive black American public or means of anonymous letters and other foul tricks. As seen from the papers, the FBI planned to place this agent provocateur at the head of the movement of black Americans instead of Martin Luther King. According to the design of the secret service, he was to convince the leaders of major black American organizations that King was a great danger to the movement of black Americans for their rights.

The Centre for National Security Studies also made public another FBI document saying that the then Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach granted FBI Director Edgar Hoover unlimited powers for wiretapping King's conversations. These facts are another proof that FBI agents have for many years engaged themselves in persecuting and victimizing King, and that behind the criminal murder of the leader of black Americans in Memphis is the sinister web of conspiracy.

HUA KUO-FENG ADDRESSES PLA POLITICAL CONFERENCE

OW311421Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 0900 GMT 31 May 78 OW

[Text] Hua Kuo-feng delivered a speech at the all-army conference on political work in Peking, stressing that the new Peking regime attaches great importance to the work of the general political department and the political work of various units of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. He also pointed out that some people who are not loyal to Peking are still occupying positons in the General Political Department of the central authorities and in various localities.

In this connection, foreign observers point out that Hua Kuo-feng's call to improve political work is a signal for carrying out an even more extensive clean-up campaign in the army. This campaign, which started a long time ago, involves tens of thousands of middle and lower-level commanders. The persecutions in the general political department will further complicate the situation within the army and aggravate the current political crisis in China.

USSR-CHINA FRIENDSHIP GROUP COMMEMORATES LIAO CHUNG-KAI

OW010450Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 27 May 78 OW

[Excerpts] The Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the USSR-China Friendship Society held a meeting to commemorate the 100th birthday of Liao Chung-kai, famous activist of the Chinese liberation movement.

Attending the soiree at the friendship home of people of all countries were activists of the USSR-China Friendship Society, Soviet military advisors to the former Chinese Government of Sun Yat-sen, Soviet Sinologists, students of oriental studies at schools of higher learning and representatives of various circles in Moscow. First Secretary Chen Hsien-yu and other staff members of the Chinese Embassy in the Soviet Union also attended the soiree.

(Gluchen), director of the Oriental Study Research Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and member of the Central Council of the USSR-China Friendship Society, declared the meeting open. (Kustayev), scientific worker first class of the Far East Research Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, made a report on Liao Chung-kai's life and his deeds.

Liao Chung-kai's activities, especially his resolute determination to carry out Sun Yat-sen's three principles, were loved and respected by the Chinese revolutionary people. His revolutionary activities were hated by his political enemies, the Kuomantang rightists and other reactionaries. On 20 August 1925, those people assassinated Liao Chung-kai.

(Kustayev) concluded: The Soviet people have great esteem for the heroism and courage of Liao Chung-kai who dedicated his whole life to the cause of his motherland's liberation.

Retired Lieutenant General (Gripanov), former military advisor of the government headed by Sun Yat-sen, spoke after (Kustayev). He also recalled the deeds of Liao Chung-kai.

INDIAN OFFICIAL CHARGES PRC ABANDONED MARXISM-LENINISM

LD262016Y Moscow TASS in English 1736 GMT 26 May 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, May 26, TASS--The development of events in China and its foreign policy are a patent illustration of the fact that the Chinese leaders have actually abandoned Marxism-Leninism, have departed from the road of socialist development and taken the road of betrayal of the international communist movement, the road of rabid anti-Sovietism, prominent Indian public leader [name indistinct] Mukerjee writes in the newspaper PATRIOT.

Declaring in word its allegiance to the principles of Marxism-Leninism, the author points out, the Chinese leadership in deeds holds a proimperialist stand. The testimony of this is China's attitude to the national-liberation struggle of the peoples of Angola and Mozambique, the south of Africa and all the African Continent, the attempts to resolve territorial problems with neighbours by the way of arms, as it was happened, for instance, during the frontier conflict with India in 1962.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly taken steps to normalize the relations with China, the article runs. But under various unseemly pretexts the Chinese leadership every time turned down Soviet initiatives and intensified an anti-Soviet hysteria.

In blind hatred for the world's first socialist states, the newspaper PEOPLE'S DAILY, the publication of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, has gone even further than the most dyed-in-the-wool Western reactionaries.

Certain circles in the West rejoice at such statements made by the leadership of the People's Republic of China, the article stresses. Their logic is obvious: The worse (?are the relations) between China and the (?USSR), the greater is political capital gained by imperialism on it.

(?Echoing) imperialists, Mukerjee points out, China at the same time makes ever new and new purchases of armaments in Western countries.

The author stresses that China's stand towards the USSR and other countries of the socialist community to questions of disarmament and detente, the national-liberation struggle, plays into the hand of world imperialism, the NATO's military strategy, reactionaries of all hues.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON BREZHNEV VISIT TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Text of Brezhnev Speech

LD311228Y Moscow TASS in English 1202 GMT 31 May 78 LD

["Leonid Brezhnev's Speech in Prague Castle"--TASS headline; Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1007 GMT on 31 May began live coverage of Brezhnev speech from Prague, which was interrupted at 1024 GMT and never continued due to a 'technical hitch'--tekhnicheskaya nepoladka; bracketed passages are from announcer-read version of Brezhnev speech supplied by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1200 GMT on 31 May]

[Text] Prague, May 31, TASS--General secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev today delivered a speech at the celebration meeting in the Prague Castle. He said:

Esteemed Comrade Husak,

Esteemed comrades, members of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and of the Central Committee of the National Front, of the Federal Assembly and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, representatives of collectives of working people of Prague.

I would like, above all, to express sincere gratitude for good words about our party and country spoken here. Our delegation conveys to all those present in this hall, to the entire fraternal Czechoslovak people warm greetings from the Leninist Communist Party and its Central Committee, from the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Soviet Government, from our entire many millioned people.

When staying with friends, you feel completely at ease. There is, certainly, a lot of work, but however great the workload, one works easily together with comrades and people who hold the same views, and one feels well.

Dear friends, when preparing for addressing you, I could not but recall two memorable dates that fall due this year. A little less than 60 years have passed since the formation of the Czechoslovak Republic And half of this period Czechoslovakia lived under the star of socialism. Is this not an occasion for pondering on the destinies of the country, on its past, present and future?

Three decades ago, when a powerful action of the proletariat and peasantry brought into the Prague Castle true representatives of the people, the communists were faced with extremely complex tasks. It was necessary to overcome the consequences of the war and fascist occupation, to rebuild the society on new, socialist foundations, to ensure development of economy and culture, to improve in every way the living conditions of the working people. This huge constructive work had to be conducted in acute struggle against class enemies. These enemies made themselves felt for a long time. And in 1968, the enemies of socialism launched a new, broadly planned attack on the revolutionary gains of the working class.

Now, looking back on the past, our Czechoslovak comrades can say with satisfaction that they have passed with honours difficult tests.

Czechoslovakia now spells a powerful economy which is being developed according to plan, advanced science and culture, the high level of the people's prosperity, the widest opportunities for the development of personality, active participation of millions of citizens in managing state and public affairs. Behind all this is the transforming and guiding activity of the communist party, vast persistent work of the working class, peasantry, people's intelligentsia.

The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, a respected member of the fraternal family of socialist states, plays a great role in the international life, participates actively and fruitfully in the solution of topical international problems, in consolidation of European and universal peace.

We are glad sincerely that we can congratulate you, dear comrades, on all these achievements. They offer the most convincing evidence of the correctness of the course of the glorious militant Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, of its Central Committee led by the great [outstanding] son of the Czechoslovak people, prominent leader of the socialist community and communist movement Comrade Gustav Husak.

At the present achievements are also a springboard for successful advance in future. We know that the communists, the working people of the Czechoslovak Socialit Republic work enthusiastically to implement a vast economic and social programme outlined by the 15th Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, the programme of building a developed socialist society. We wish you complete success in this work, wish you to make your socialist motherland even more beautiful.

It can be said that tireless advance to new heights is a law of socialism. This advance is, certainly, not easy. It requires the full effort and all abilities of society as a whole and of each conscientious member. It is no less important, and I would like to dwell on this particularly, is to constantly deepen and develop cooperation of fraternal socialist countries.

The examples of its usefulness are ready to see. Take economic, scientific and technical relations between the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. Constant flows of millions upon millions of tons of cargoes move two ways across our common frontier. Ever more joint construction projects appear on the maps of both countries. Harmonious collective work of our scientists, engineers and workers produces contemporary machinery and advanced technological processes. Spiritual contacts of our peoples were never so fruitful and varied and they enrich all of us.

It can be said that all aspects of our cooperation--production, scientific and technical and political aspects were reflected in the recent space flight of the first international socialist crew in which Czechoslovakia's first pilot-cosmonaut Comrade Vladimir Remek took part. We have now four more common heroes who are both Soviet and Czechoslovak heroes.

Launchings of new international crews of socialist countries are planned. It can be said that our community, having been established firmly on earth, begins to explore space successfully.

Mutual assistance [interaction] of fraternal socialist countries makes a favourable impact on all aspects of life.

There are peaceful skies over Europe for the fourth decade now. History, it seems, never gave such a long period of peace to peoples of our continent. And peoples must be aware that this is largely and decisively due to the fact that half of Europe now lives in socialist conditions. Peace in Europe is largely a result of our common efforts, of the concerted foreign policy of the Warsaw Treaty member-countries.

Marxist-Leninist ideology now holds the vanguard positions in world public thought. Passions are raging around it and different social movements are attracted to it. This is largely a result of the joint creative activity of our parties, a result of the influence of the vast practice of the construction of a new world.

Great prestige has been earned by socialist culture which is profoundly humanistic in spirit and is inseparately connected with the best national traditions and is at the same time an innovatory, internationalist culture that reflects the creative genius of many nations and peoples.

The countries united in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance doubled their industrial potential in the past decade alone. In addition to national efforts, multilateral cooperation plays a great role in this.

We are accustomed to assessing soberly the state of affairs and we do not close our eyes to unsolved problems. For a number of indices our countries do not set the trend, so to say. This refers, for instance, to some directions in the development of electronics, machine-building and the chemical industry. Can we assume the front-ranking positions in these spheres, too? There is no doubt that we can. And we shall do so the sooner the more efficient the perfection of the international socialist division of labour, the closer our economic interaction.

We believe the main thing now is to increase to the maximum the effectivity of our contacts, to consider not only the needs of the given moment but also of the great perspective. We exchanged opinions on these major questions at the talks with the Czechoslovak leaders. It is gratifying to note that we have complete mutual understanding in this too, comrades.

I will always treasure the reminiscences I have about Czechoslovakia about Prague. We welcomed here the treasured peace to which we advanced for four years along extremely difficult roads of war. Here we gave an oath to prevent a new [tragedy of] war. It can be said justly that the communists are true to this oath.

Much has been done in recent years to improve the international climate, particularly in Europe. Peoples that are neighbours in their European house, so to say, not only say hello but also talk with each other peacefully and learned to cooperate well in many matters. This was manifested patently also during my recent visit to the FRG. We believe a vast program for enhancing the level and quality of mutual relations has been worked out. While meeting, naturally, the interests of the two countries, it is permeated in no lesser degree with concern for consolidation of detente in the continent.

Durable peace in Europe is, undoubtedly, one of the decisive conditions of preventing a new world war. The Helsinki conference three years ago created all opportunities for the development of good relations in the European Continent. It seemed that detente got a firm political foundation. But political circles turned up that, obviously, are out to frustrate the process of detente, and not only in Europe, at that, and to return if not to the cold war then at least to a "chilly" war.

In the same vein are, of course, also such actions as the bloody intervention of NATO countries in Zaire, whose cynical nature they tried to conceal by a propaganda clamour over some alleged "Soviet" or "Cuban" complicity in those events.

It is also a fact that many useful initiatives of socialist countries that, undoubtedly, meet the interests of European, and not only European peoples, do not meet with due response, though, it would seem, it is obvious that everybody stands to benefit from them.

The soil for peaceful cooperation it is obvious has been seriously disfigured by the continued arms race.

To put an end to it, to begin practical steps toward disarmament--this is a great task confronting today not only governments, not only people in power. This task confronts all parties and political trends, trade unions and other public organisations and the mass media. No one has the right to keep aloof of this cause. It should not be expected that the course of events can be reversed from arming to disarmament without intensive actions of the international public, of the broadest political forces.

Our ardent striving is to bury the axe of war so deep that no sinister forces could ever unearth it. Such is the aim of our proposals to merge political detente with military detente, to hold all-embracing talks on disarmament, including nuclear disarmament.

We have an extremely serious and conscientious approach to talks on curbing the arms race. We are against fruitless polemics, against these talks becoming similar to the so-called "conference on disarmament" that was ridiculed by Jaroslav Hasek in his time. As is known, his characters, stupefied by countless night-time meetings and banquets, started, seemingly from good intentions, to call on everyone for arming themselves.

A session of the United Nations General Assembly specially devoted to disarmament opened in New York a few days ago. For the first time in the United Nations history, its participants are discussing the problem of disarmament in its entirety.

The Soviet Union and fraternal socialist countries have come to the session with proposals and initiatives that have been thoroughly considered and designed for constructive work and achievement of practical results.

The essence of our stand on the questions of disarmament is, in brief, the following. There is no type of armaments which the USSR would not be ready to limit, to ban on a mutual foundation in conformity with an understanding with other states. It is only important that everything be done without prejudicing the security of anyone, on conditions of full reciprocity of states having the relevant armaments. It is important that the striving to curb the arms race be sincere, not ostentatious.

It should be deplored that [Moscow radio versions omits the proceeding passage and begins sentence with "unfortunately"] the stand of our main partners in the talks is full of contradictions. Here is a clear illustration.

The summit session of the NATO Council is now held in Washington. Some of its participants, on the way to the NATO Council is now held in Washington. Some of its participants, on the way to the NATO meeting or on the way back home stop over in New York, visit the special session of the United Nations and say high-sounding words about disarmament, while at the NATO session, in the same breath they talk about plans of new military preparations for many years ahead. The question arises where do Western powers mean business and where do they merely talk?

It is high time to realize that the arms race will not do good to anyone. It is time to put an end to it and to work honestly toward disarmament.

The socialist countries have worked hard to advance the cause of disarmament. No matter how big are the obstacles, we shall advance together with all supporters of peace and goodneighbourliness, will search for a reliable and complete solution to this pressing problem.

Allow me comrades, in conclusion, to wish you wholeheartedly again successes in all your undertakings, happiness and prosperity to every Czechoslovak family.

Let our common achievement--brotherly friendship of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia, strengthen!

Long live peace!
Long live communism!

CSSR Reportage on Visit

For Prague media reportage on the visit to Czechoslovakia by a USSR delegation led by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium--including a report on the Prague Television break in transmission during live coverage of the 31 May Brezhnev speech--see the Czechoslovakia section of the 1 June Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

CSSR TV Carries 'Full' Speech

AU312025 [Editorial report] Prague Domestic TV in Czechoslovak at 1800 GMT on 31 May carries a recorded version of the Prague ceremony held 31 May in which Leonid Brezhnev spoke.

The Prague TV recording is a full version of the Brezhnev speech with no break in transmission.

Husak Receives Award

LD311826Y Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 31 May 78 LD

["Soviet Orders Presented to Gustav Husak and Vasil Bilak"--TASS headline]

[Text] Prague, May 31, TASS--The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev presented Soviet orders in the Prague Castle today to the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia Vasil Bilak.

When presenting the order of the October Revolution to Gustav Husak, who was awarded this decoration for his outstanding contribution to the development of fraternal friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the USSR and Czechoslovakia, to the cause of strengthening peace and socialism, and on the occasion of this 60th birthday, Leonid Brezhnev said: "Speaking only recently in the Spanish Hall I noted socialist Czechoslovakia's wonderful successes.... These successes are most weighty evidence of the fact that the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia is following the correct road, that the working people have faith in the party, support its plans and undertakings. And much credit for this goes personally to Comrade Husak, the acknowledged and authoritative leader of Czechoslovak communists."

Leonid Brezhnev noted Gustav Husak's principledness, his political courage, his loyalty to the ideals of Marxism-Leninism, his constant sense of communist comradeship.

Accepting this award, Gustav Husak said in his speech, I regard it as a high appraisal of the activities of our Communist Party and the Czechoslovak people in the building of socialism, in strengthening our brotherhood and cooperation. "The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and our people scored successes and work went well when we strictly observed the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, when a firm alliance, brotherhood and cooperation existed between our parties and countries," he stated.

Then Leonid Brezhnev presented the Order of Lenin to Vasil Bilak for his big services in strengthening fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the CPSU, between Czechoslovakia and the USSR, and on the occasion of his 60th birthday. "Your activities," Leonid Brezhvev said, "have always served and continue to serve as an example of profound and clear understanding of the inter-nationalist duty of communists, of the importance of their cohesion in the struggle for common aims."

Departs for Bratislava

LD312036Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] The Soviet party-government delegation headed by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, today toured Prague. Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR, participated in the tour.

The guests visited the Prague subway, which is being built with the assistance of the USSR. The construction is being performed with the direct participation of Soviet specialists. Soviet enterprises deliver the latest machinery, equipment and cars there. The inhabitants of Prague correctly call it the construction of Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and the other Soviet guests, accompanied by leaders of the city party committee and the city national committee, visited the Klement Gottwald Bridge metro station. They then traveled by special train to Museum station. Leonid Ilich made this entry in the memorial book: Prague metro leaves a wonderful impression. Its construction is a good example of cooperation between the USSR and Czechoslovakia, clear evidence of the fruitfulness of the friendship between our peoples. I hope the collective of metro builders, and the Soviet specialists participating in this work continue honorably to fulfill their tasks. May there be ever more good symbols of fraternal cooperation between the Soviet and Czechoslovak peoples.

The Soviet guests also visited the Vladimir Ilich Lenin Museum which is located on Hybernska street in the center of Prague. In January 1912, in the building which houses the museum, the Sixth Prague All-Russian Conference of the Russian Social Democratic Workers Party [RSDWP] took place under the leadership of Vladimir Ilich Lenin and played an important role in the history of the communist party. Comrade Brezhnev and the members of the delegation viewed the museum's exhibitions. The following inscription was made in the important visitors' book by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev:

The visit to the Valdimir Ilich Lenin museum has been greatly satisfying. In 1912, the historic Sixth Prague conference of the RSDWP took place under the leadership of Vladimir Ilich Lenin and today the cause of Lenin is triumphant in the USSR, in Czechoslovakia and in many other countries. His ideas illuminate the path of mankind to the communist future. It is good that the museum's exhibitions reflect the link between the creative use of Lenin's ideas in fraternal Czechoslovakia and its achievements in the construction of a developed, socialist society. From the bottom of our heart we wish the collective of the Vladimir Ilich Lenin museum further success in its very necessary and useful work.

On 31 May, the Soviet party-governmental delegation led by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, left Prague for Bratislava.

Departing with the Soviet guests were Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, president of the CSSR; Bilak and Kempny, members of the Presidium and secretaries of the CPCZ Central Committee; Lovetinsky, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and ambassador of the CSSR in the USSR, and Stefanek, deputy head of the Department of International (?Affairs) of the CPCZ Central Committee.

Meeting at Bratislava Castle

LD011112Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1043 GMT 1 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Bratislava, 1 June--Leonid Brezhnev gave a high appraisal of the progress of the visit by the Soviet party and government delegation to fraternal Czechoslovakia and of the importance of the talks held in Prague with the Czechoslovak leaders during a conversation with the leaders of Slovakia today at Bratislava Castle. "These talks will help to map out the directions for further extending and deepening Soviet-Czechoslovak cooperation," the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, said. The steadfast development of the industry and agriculture of Slovakia is a considerable contribution toward resolving the fundamentally important task of equalizing the economic levels and living standards in both parts of Czechoslovakia. This has become possible thanks to the consistent Leninist decision on the nationalities question being implemented under the leadership of the CPCZ, Leonid Brezhnev said.

The Soviet party and government delegation led by Leonid Brezhnev was received by Jozef Lenart, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and first secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, and other Slovak leaders. Josef Lenart told the members of the Soviet delegation about the life and work of Slovak communists. The seventies are a period of most successful building of socialism in the CSSR, and this applies fully to Slovakia, he noted.

Josef Lenart said that the entire history of relations between socialist Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union is imbued with the spirit of sincere fraternity and active socialist internationalism. He stressed the immense role of the Soviet Union in the struggle for consolidation of universal peace, for the peaceful cooperation of peoples and for an end to the arms race.

REPORTAGE ON NATO COUNCIL SESSION IN WASHINGTON

Carter Speech

LD311854Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1743 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington--A NATO Council session being held here was addressed by U.S. President J. Carter. The session was preceded in the United States and some other Western countries by a propaganda campaign of hostility toward the socialist countries. This campaign was designed by its organizers to provide the U.S. administration with the opportunity to make decisions running counter to the relaxation of tension and the cessation of the arms race. It is no accident that this campaign was directed against the Soviet Union, which is conducting a consistent struggle to break through the dangerous trend in the world toward stepping up the arms race.

The speech by J. Carter contained calls for further building up the military potential of the NATO countries and for "a modernization of the forces" of the bloc. "The United States," he said, "is doing everything appropriate in the field of conventional and tactical nuclear armaments." "Last year," J. Carter noted, "the United States increased the numbers of its armed forces in Europe and is now expanding its capability for the speedy transfer of troops to that continent. A modernization of American tactical forces," he said, "is being carried out, and the United States will maintain strategic nuclear parity with the Soviet Union."

J. Carter alleged that "the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact countries are creating a military threat for NATO." As is known, this is not the first time that the myth of a "Soviet threat" has been used by American state officials at various levels when it is a matter of encouraging the armaments race at home and imposing it upon their partners in military blocs.

It emerges from the U.S. President's speech that the United States is striving to extend NATO's sphere of activity and is attempting to spread it to other continents, above all to Africa. "Our vigilance," J. Carter said, "must not be limited to Europe. We cannot remain indifferent to events in African countries, in the light of what they signify nor in the light of their effect on the long-term interests of NATO." The thesis of the global designs of the NATO military bloc, which is led by the United States, has thereby in effect been openly put forward.

The U.S. President has, in effect, confirmed that an intervention was carried out in Zaire by individual NATO member states--an intervention which he represented as an action "promoting peace in the region." This time, too, he has resorted to a distorted interpretation of the Soviet Union's policy toward Africa, which he alleges is hampering "certain countries from developing along their own independent path."

J. Carter's statements that the United States and its allies are striving for detente do not look very convincing. It is difficult to fit these statements in with calls at the NATO session for an increase in the arms race.

Plans for Intervention Force

LD311800Y Moscow TASS in English 1742 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 31 TASS--The Western countries led by the USA, which perpetrated an armed invasion of Zaire, are hatching plans for creating permanent interventionist forces in order to carry out similar punitive operations in other African countries as well.

The matter, to judge by American press reports, has been vigorously discussed at the current NATO Council session in Washington. Addressing the session, Belgian Prime Minister Tindemans pointed to the "need for closer political consultations in the NATO framework on questions of joint actions in Africa."

According to the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, the NATO strategists are seeking to knock together some sort of a "fire brigade" that could be sent off as they see it to any point of the African Continent with the purpose of making a "show of force" or, in other words, for interference in the internal affairs of sovereign African states and for struggle against the national liberation movement. According to the paper, NATO Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, the American General Alexander Haig has long been clamouring for spreading the bloc's sphere of operations beyond Europe. At the Washington session these plans have been supported by U.S. President Carter, who stated that NATO should not be restricted to the European Continent.

An official spokesman for the U.S. State Department admitted that Washington is holding intensive consultations with other NATO members about the implementation of this plan. Concrete measures, it is reported, will be outlined already next week in Paris. Informed American commentators make no secret that the main purpose of the American-designed NATO "expeditionary corps" is to protect the interests of international monopolies and their stooges in Africa, and undermine progressive regimes and national liberation movements. The West's intervention in Zaire gives a clear idea of what future missions the planned police formations are to carry out. The British paper MORNING STAR points out that NATO's campaign for creating interventionist forces in Africa is aimed at halting the wave of social changes on the African Continent.

It is noteworthy that the leaders of NATO countries are ever more frequently making statements about the creation of "Euro-African forces," which utterly betrays the authors of this neocolonialist plan. The "African" part of the term is put in rather for camouflage. All the affairs will be conducted and the punitive forces ordered about by the politicians and officers of NATO. It is not fortuitous that NATO countries have tackled the creation of these forces on the African Continent at the Washington session. The State Department spokesman stated directly that the United States does not rule out its leading role in putting together these forces. U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance announced that Washington will examine the question of "economic assistance" to these forces.

The model followed when carrying out the neocolonialist interference in Zaire's internal affairs by the French Legionnaires and the Belgian paratroopers under the guidance and with the active support of the U.S., will be emulated by other NATO powers as well. The British DAILY MAIL reports today that special British paratroops are being singled out for conducting emergency operations in Rhodesia in case civil war breaks out there as happened in Zaire. As a pretext for the interference, the so-called thesis of "rescuing white citizens" is being used again. The paper says that 8 to 10 jumbo transports, C-130, are on duty round the clock at British bases from which paratroops may be delivered to Rhodesia within a day.

Zaire territory is being used at present as a bridgehead for launching provocations against neighbouring African states. The ZANA news agency reports that a group of Zaire troops armed with machine guns violated Zambia's border in the region of the Musundu village and penetrated 5 kilometres into Zambian territory.

A statement circulated in Brussels by the Front for the National Liberation of Congo, strongly condemns the Western powers' neocolonialist manoeuvres.

"What is happening in Zaire is a purely internal matter. The Front protests strongly against the belligerent call of the U.S. President and states categorically that no one has the right to speak in the name of the Congolese people. No concerted intervention by NATO will remain without consequences."

Referring to the Zaire events, the Vietnamese paper NHAN DAN writes that the Western powers perpetrated an armed interference in that African country under U.S. control for suppressing an uprising. For this purpose they brought troops into Zaire. Colonialism has once again manifested its vicious essence. Trying to somehow excuse these actions, the paper notes, the imperialists are making slanderous statements alleging interference in Zaire's internal affairs by progressive African and by socialist countries. Colonialism, the NHAN DAN writes, pursues several goals in Africa: to suppress the struggle of the Zaire people, to sever the countries of the African Continent from the socialist states, and consolidate the reactionary forces on the continent.

Vance Remarks

LD312359Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Gennadiy Ariyevich]

[Text] The NATO Council summit session in Washington is ending today. It has demonstrated vividly who is really hindering a halt to the arms race. The session has agreed on a program for further building up the might of this military bloc. This program envisages an increase in troop strength, a changeover to the use of new American missiles, ships and aircraft and an increase in nuclear arsenals. The session has also discussed possibilities for NATO interference in Africa. U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance announced that his country is prepared to give aid for the establishment of a so-called pan-African force. What is intended by this is the formation, using troops of conservative African states, of a permanent corps with punitive functions. A special conference is to be held next week in Paris, within the framework of NATO, at which France, the United States, Britain, the FRG and Belgium are to discuss the coordination of their efforts for putting down the armed insurrection in Zaire.

According to the British paper DAILY MAIL, one of the questions at the session of the NATO Council has been a plan for the sale to China of modern weapons. According to the paper, China intends to purchase Harrier aircraft from Britain and Mirage aircraft from France. A high-ranking Peking delegation headed by Ku Mu, vice premier of the State Council, has recently made a trip around Western Europe and displayed special interest in purchasing military equipment. China is striving to draw closer to NATO in order to modernize its armed forces.

Callaghan Speech

LD311840Y Moscow TASS in English 1822 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow May 31 TASS--TASS political commentator Igor Orlov writes:

On joining the campaign to advertise the unprecedented program of armaments, intended to span many years, that is now being discussed at the current session of the NATO Council in Washington, the British Prime Minister James Callaghan could not invent anything more original than to draw on the arsenal of means that were discredited already during the cold war period.

Callaghan absolutely groundlessly tried to use reference to the "Soviet menace" and "steady growth of the Soviet military potential" as a justification of the overt policy of accelerating the arms race that has been adopted by the NATO leaders. Not being satisfied with this myth, the prime minister resorted immediately to two other similarly routine concoctions--"violations of human rights" in the Soviet Union and Soviet "interference" in Africa.

Why did such a highly-placed British leader need such irresponsible contentions?

It is difficult to give a simple answer to this question. First of all, it is clear that the arms race, that entails a substantial growth of the military burden, in this case for the English people, does not hold promise of any growth of popularity in Britain for the prime minister who had reported to the NATO session his government's intention to boost military expenditures in the 1979-1980 and 1980-1981 fiscal years. Neither will the English people be very enthusiastic about the prime minister's stated readiness to play a comprehensive role in the fulfilment of NATO's long-term defence program.

It is clear to every level-headed person in Britain that it is the man in the street who will have to pay for all these commitments. At the same time how can it be explained to the rank-and-file Englishman that all this is being done in the interests of the U.S. military-industrial complex whose instructions are being blindly fulfilled by many government leaders in the West. Hence, the need to refer to the mythical "Soviet danger."

Secondly, the perspective of general elections, which is increasingly being mentioned by the British press, must be putting off balance some politicians who are ready to resort to any means, even those of a dubious nature, just to outdo their opponents in the Tory camp. Is that not why we are witnessing attempts by some British statesmen to start a sort of competition with certain circles of the Conservative Party in whipping up tension and spreading all sort of "fears," a component part of which are the anti-Soviet myths?

Past experience, however, shows that resort to such means is fraught with serious miscalculations.

Trudeau Statement

LD010948Y Moscow TASS in English 0940 GMT 1 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Ottawa, June 1, TASS--A statement by the Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, made on the eve of the NATO conference in Washington, has been published here. It was met with great interest. Trudeau said that he was surprised by certain claims that the Soviet Union was moving towards a tougher line vis-a-vis the West. He said he did not believe that this would happen, that the available documents testified to this. In his opinion the Soviet Union would not intensify the "cold war."

On May 29th Canadian Parliament turned down a resolution, submitted by the opposition, urging the government to submit positive proposals for the modernisation of the conventional NATO forces. Adduced in this connection is Trudeau's statement, saying that the Canadians were not prone to telling the military blindly: you may have everything you want.

The growing militarist tendencies in the propaganda, conducted here through the American mass information media, alarm increasingly the public opinion of Canada, are meeting with criticism of the sober-minded Canadian political leaders.

Session Ends

LD010834Y Moscow TASS in English 0817 GMT 1 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Washington, June 1, TASS--A two-way session of the NATO Council with the participation of heads of state and government of countries-members of the alignment has ended here.

The "key" question of the session was the adoption of the so-called NATO 15-year "long-term defence program," providing for a further build-up of the NATO military potential. This program means that the NATO countries are initiating a new stage of the arms race in Europe. According to the most moderate estimates of Pentagon experts this program will cost the tax payers of NATO countries additional 60-80 thousand million dollars.

KHARLANOV COMMENTS ON PARIS FRANCO-AFRICAN CONFERENCE

LD311027Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 May 78 p 5 LD

[Yuriy Kharlanov dispatch: "Sinister Plans"]

[Text] Paris--The latest, fifth Franco-African conference of heads of state and government has been held in Paris. Participating in it, in addition to France, were 21 African countries--mainly former colonies or mandated territories of France and Belgium. Interested in accelerating their development and surmounting the backwardness inherited from the past, the African participants in these meetings regard questions of economic relations with their West European partners as of paramount importance. These questions include, in particular, curbing international monopolies, which plunder the natural resources of African countries, and giving effective financial and technical aid to these countries. It was precisely this range of questions that was proposed to be discussed in Paris. However, the armed intervention of Western countries in Zaire directed the conference along a different path. A discussion of military questions was imposed on it as almost the main item on the agenda. The rightwing French press attempted to intimidate the conference participants with the mythical "threat from the Soviet bloc."

The local press believes no concrete decisions were adopted at the conference. Nevertheless, much indicates that agreement was reached to continue consultation on setting up so-called "African intervention forces."

It is known that France is offering its services in equipping and training these forces: it is proposed that the weapons for them will be purchased in other Western countries, particularly the United States. It is obviously a project to create punitive forces under NATO control.

The military action being undertaken by Western countries in Zaire, in which "intervention forces" transferred from Europe are now participating, clearly shows African countries that imperialist powers flagrantly interfere in the internal affairs of African states for the sake of their own mercenary interests. Here they would not be averse to acquiring the possibility of covering up such aggressive actions and to securing an additional tool of neocolonialist policy. This course, as L'HUMANITE writes, "leads to the perpetuation of relations of the neocolonialist type, the dependence of African countries and their economic backwardness and poverty." It could not be put more accurately.

NOVOYE VREMYA HITS 'NEOCOLONIALIST' FRENCH POLICY IN AFRICA

LD010931Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 22, 26 May 78 p 22 LD

[V. Guryev article: "Against the Interests of Detente"]

[Text] The participation of the French troops in the armed intervention in Zaire has again forced the international public to speak about the role which official Paris has taken upon itself in African affairs. It is known that during the military operations in Zaire as early as last spring, the French authorities took the path of interference by participating in the operations against the National Liberation Front of the Congo. They then supplied military transport airplanes to take Moroccan forces to Zaire. French weapons dealers are supplying the Zaire regime with modern arms.

This time Paris has taken another step along the path of participating in the neocolonialist venture.

France's acts in Zaire provoked indignation from the broad political and social circles of this country. Communists and representatives of leftwing parties protested resolutely against the French participation in this military venture, which could have serious consequences for the country. Their deputies demanded a debate in the National Assembly regarding Paris' African policy and, in particular, French military action in Zaire which, as the deputies note, was undertaken in violation of the constitution and without parliamentary sanction. Even several organs of the French bourgeois press are asking according to what right the authorities involve the country in major conflicts abroad without informing the public. "Is it hypocrisy, or possible something more serious," the newspaper LE MONDE writes, "this unconcealed attempt to hide from the people what is being done in their name?"

The French public notes with alarm that the French authorities have been emerging increasingly frequently as the "gendarme of Africa" recently.

Indeed, French forces--marines, paratroops and mercenaries from the Foreign Legion--are taking part in military operations in the Republic of Chad against the forces of the National Liberation Front. In Western Sahara French Jaguar fighter-bombers frequently attack Polisario Front partisans with missiles and napalm. The foreign press reported the French secret services' participation in the organization of the recent coup d'etat on the Comoro Islands and also the participation of French mercenaries in aggressive operations against the People's Republic of Benin in Janaury 1977. Earlier French units interfered in the internal affairs of Benin.

Isn't all this nostalgia for the colonial past? Don't these actions show that in French foreign policy the influence of those circles which were always supporters of the methods of neocolialism and military interference is increasing? The era of colonialism has passed, but Washington, London and also Paris sometimes think in clearly obsolete terms which contradict the spirit of the times. Obviously, it is no coincidence that a short time ago the idea of concluding a "security pact" for Africa was voiced in Paris. Many countries of the world correctly assessed this idea as an attempt to create a bloc comprising several conservative African regimes directed against the progressive countries of Africa. This French idea is clearly subject to the principle of "divide and rule." The Franco-African conference which has just taken place in Paris also discussed the proposal to create a so-called African intervention corps--a kind of police to suppress the liberation movement in Africa.

Indignation is great among the African and international public because of the active cooperation, including military cooperation, between France and the apartheid regime. Indeed, it is no secret that, thanks to French licences for the production of weapons and also direct deliveries of French weapons, the South African military has at its disposal a large quantity of modern aircraft, tanks, warships and other types of arms. And although through public pressure France was forced to put a formal embargo on arms deliveries to South Africa, military cooperation between France and the Republic of South Africa is in fact continuing.

From official French circles it is frequently possible to hear appeals to make detente universal and ubiquitous and to extend it to all regions of the world. However, several of France's practical acts, particularly its participation in the imperialist intervention in Zaire, clearly contradict these appeals and indeed the generally accepted norms of international relations. Paris' African policy is obviously determined by the interests of the major banks and monopolies which continue to plunder the national wealth of the African peoples and disregard the interests of peace and detente for this reason. In Zaire the French monopolies of the United States, Belgium, Britain and the FRG, are taking part in the exploitation of very rich deposits of copper, diamonds, cobalt and other useful minerals. However, this can in no way justify a military intervention in Zaire which has not only reduced French influence in Africa but also did serious harm to its international prestige. Events in Zaire show that the lessons derived from the collapse of French colonial policy in Asia and Africa have obviously not benefited those who determine Paris' present African policy.

The collective intervention by a number of Western powers in Zaire is a serious encroachment on the cause of peace not only in Africa but throughout the world. It creates a dangerous hotbed of tension and threatens to provoke new complications on the African Continent. As the recent TASS statement says: "If as a result of the imperialist forces' intervention in Central Africa a new dangerous hotbed of tension arises, it will be the total responsibility of those who under invented pretexts are carrying out a policy of kindling a conflict situation in and around Zaire for their own narrow, selfish interests."

The Soviet people have always looked sympathetically on the desire of the African peoples to become masters of their own fate and their own countries. Any form of imperialist intervention generates decisive condemnation from the Soviet public. They demand that an immediate end be put to the imperialist interference in the affairs of the people of Zaire and other African countries and that their sovereign right to choose the path of their development be respected.

ITALIAN CP VETERANS END 10-DAY TOUR OF USSR

LD010757Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 May 78 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "At the Invitation of the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] A delegation of Italian Communist Party veterans was in the Soviet Union from 18 through 28 May at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. During their stay in the USSR the delegates visited Moscow, Leningrad and Riga, were received at the CPSU Central Committee, the Latvian CP Central Committee and Leningrad Gorispolkom, visited an industrial enterprise and a kolkhoz, met with war veterans and familiarized themselves with the living, working and leisure conditions of the Soviet people.

PARIS TALKS ON MILITARY EQUIPMENT SALES TO PRC HELD

LD301816Y Moscow TASS in English 1737 GMT 30 May 78 LD

[Text] Brussels, May 30, TASS--According to reports reaching here, negotiations are now under way in Paris on sales to China of French military equipment: Transall transport planes, Superfrelon helicopters, Milan and Hot anti-tank missiles, various navigational equipment. An agreement is being drafted on deliveries of Berliet cross-country lorries, intended for the Chinese Army. As is reported by the press, the NATO's coordination committee on East-West trade policy, which regulates questions of sales of strategic commodities, is now discussing the question of elaborating provisions on military deliveries to Peking from NATO member-countries.

London, May 30, TASS--According to the newspaper DAILY MAIL, the British Prime Minister James Callaghan will discuss, in the course of the Washington NATO Council's session, a plan of supplying China with modern equipment. This is linked here with the recent trip to Peking of Assistant to President for National Security Affairs Zbigniew Brzezinski.

CANADIAN ADMIRAL CRITICIZED FOR NEUTRON BOMB STATEMENT

LD311354Y Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 31, TASS--TASS commentator Sergey Bulantsev writes:

Some scientists believe that there is a certain fourth dimension in nature, where different amazing things occur. Time runs counterclockwise there, for instance, and a sphere can be easily turned inside out. In other words, everything is diametrically opposite to what we have in our three dimensional space. The fourth dimension came to our mind in connection with the statement made by Admiral Falls, Canada's chief of defence staff. Speaking this Tuesday in the Defence Committee of the House of Commons of the Canadian Parliament, he said that chances of a thermonuclear war would be reduced if the West deployed the neutron bomb. Quite a conclusion, indeed.

It turns out that the stockpiling of lethal weapons is merely a step towards international detente. It is pertinent to ask: If the neutron bomb is needed to reduce the war danger, what is then required to do away once and for all with this menace looming over mankind? If we follow the Candian admiral's recommendation, we must invent for this purpose and deploy even more monstrous weapons than the neutron bomb. We do not know whether the strange recommendation of Admiral Falls fits the fourth dimension, where, as it is claimed, everything is vice versa, but in conditions of our earthly realities this statement sounds like an outright instigation to boost the nuclear arms race.

ROMANOV LEADS DELEGATION TO HELSINKI, SEEN OFF BY PELSHE

LD311350Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] A CPSU delegation led by Comrade Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Party Obkum, left Moscow for Helsinki today to take part in the work of the 18th Finnish Communist Party Congress. At Vnukovo Airport the delegation was seen off by Comrade Pelshe, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and other officials.

GROMYKO TALKS WITH IRAQI COUNTERPART IN NEW YORK

LD311324Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] A cable from New York--Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, has received Iraqi Foreign Minister Hammadi. Matters of Soviet-Iraqi relations, which are developing favorably on the sound basis of a treaty of friendship and cooperation concluded between our countries in 1972, were discussed.

The ministers exchanged opinions on a number of international problems, including the questions of curbing the arms race and disarmament being discussed at the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament, and also the situation in the Near East.

The conversation was of a friendly nature.

AL-QADHDHAFI WARNS OF COLONIALISM'S THREAT TO PEACE

LD311908Y Moscow TASS in English 1608 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Algiers, May 31 TASS--A Libyan delegation headed by General Secretary of the General People's Congress of Libya Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has arrived on a visit here.

Replying to questions by Algerian newsmen Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi stressed Libya's resolve to work for the liberation of Israeli-occupied Arab territories. Touching on the political situation in Africa, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi stated that colonialism's intention to return to the continent poses a threat to peace. "We must tear off the masks from those who are paving the road for such a return", he said.

EGYPT DEPRIVES MUHYI AD-DIN OF PARLIAMENTARY IMMUNITY

LD311432Y Moscow TASS in English 1254 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, May 31, TASS--By a decision of the legislative commission of the People's Assembly of the A.R.E., Khalid Muhyi ad-Din, a deputy of the People's Assembly, chairman of the National Progressive (left) Party of Egypt, an associate of the late President Jamal Abd an-Nasir, was deprived of parliamentary immunity. An explanation given for the adoption of the decision is that the newspaper AL-AHALI published in the National Progressive Party, allegedly ran "calumnies" about the present leadership of the country. The new repressive action by the Egyptian authorites is indicative of the further infringement upon the democratic freedoms in Egypt and is an attempt to deal a blow at the national-patriotic forces.

Rabat, May 31, TASS--The present regime in Egypt is trying to enforce anti-democratic laws, hoping, with their help, to cope with the mounting discontent of the popular masses, writes the Moroccan weekly LIBERATION.

The adoption of repressive measures against the opposition forces in Egypt is the consequence of the sharp deterioration of the situation inside the country and the failure of President as-Sadat's foreign policy course. Many of the Egyptians who earlier believed in the "miracle" of his so-called "peace initiative" now came to see its utter unsoundness. The leadership's policy, which brought the country to isolation in the international arena, is today threatening to lead to As-Sadat's isolation at home, and may result in a social outburst, LIBERATION points out.

ISRAELIS AGAIN SHELL AREAS NORTH OF LITANI RIVER

LD311457Y Moscow TASS in English 1421 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, May 31, TASS--The Israeli militarists have resorted to new provocations in the occupied territory of southern Lebanon. Last night the Israeli artillery subjected to heavy shelling the populated localities of An-Nabatiyah, Arnun, Deir az-Zahrani and others in the area north of the Litani River. Eight persons were killed and more than twenty wounded as a result of the shelling. Substantial damage was caused to housing, electric transmission lines and the water supply system. Crops and orchards were destroyed by incendiary shells.

According to eyewitnesses, the inhabitants of the destroyed villages are fleeing into the interior of the country. During the past week the Israeli artillery systematically shelled areas to the north of the Litani River.

ISRAELI DEVELOPING NEW ARMS WITH U.S. ASSISTANCE

LD311016Y Moscow TASS in English 0951 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington, May 31, TASS--Relying on substantial U.S. technological and military assistance, the Israeli military-industrial circles are developing new types of modern arms and water materiel. As reported by the newspaper Washington STAR, a pilotless reconnaissance plane has been designed in Israel. It is provided with special equipment and fitted with an American-made engine.

The newspaper notes that Israel intends to organize the serial production of such aircraft and to sell them to other countries.

SYRIAN GOVERNMENT PROGRAM STRESSES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LD302335Y Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 30 May 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, May 30, TASS--Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Syria Muhammad Ali al-Halabi has announced in parliament the program of the government he became head of early in April this year.

He emphasized that the new cabinet's main objective was to attain a rapid progress in economic development of the country and consolidation of its defence potential.

In the sphere of foreign policy, the Syrian Arab Republic will continue regarding Arab unity as the main condition of victory in the struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction, against the capitulatory policy aimed at giving up the solution of the Palestinian problem, at consolidating the Israeli occupation of Arab land, at dividing Arab ranks.

The Syrian Arab Republic will consolidate the relations of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community, develop links with the nonalignment movement, the program stresses. Syria will back the national liberation struggle of peoples for political and economic independence, regarding the Arab liberation movement as an inalienable component part of the international national-liberation movement.

TURKEY'S SECURITY THREATENED BY WEST, NOT USSR

LD010852Y Moscow in Turkish to Turkey 1830 GMT 30 May 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The regular meeting of the NATO Council is to open in Washington today. According to the foreign press, the participants are due to discuss and approve a long-term military plan drafted for the period up to 1995 and deal with a broad range of problems. This document, unprecedented in NATO history, envisages an annual increase of 3 percent per year in the military budgets of NATO countries, an increase in their military air force, modernization of tactical nuclear weapons and a number of other measures.

Hiding behind a "Soviet threat" that they themselves have fabricated, the NATO leaders once again embarked on the path of speeding up war preparations almost to the end of the present century. This path has brought great disasters to a number of NATO countries. You know from bitter experience the destructive effects of this policy.

Speaking at the foreign press union at Brussels, Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit said that the arms race policy of the Western countries has inflicted considerable harm on Turkey's economy and security. These words are backed by definite facts. As a result of the insistent demands of the NATO leadership that Turkey should increase its so-called contribution to the defence of the bloc, Turkey finds itself threatened by a profound economic crisis. The country has reached a position where it is unable to pay its debts to Western banks. The latter, in turn, are trying to exploit this situation to obtain new advantages. Many of you will no doubt remember the demands that IMF, whose membership includes powerful American monopolies, tried to impose on the Turkish state in return for normal credits and loans. Devaluation of the Turkish currency, restriction of capital investments in a number of very important sectors of national industry and increased personal taxes were only a few of these demands.

By charging Turkey with increasing its military expenditures within the framework of NATO, the NATO leadership is placing an unbearable burden on the shoulders of the Turkish working people. Skyrocketing prices of essential commodities, the decrease in the people's living standards, the prevailing unemployment and a number of other phenomena are the result of the destructive policy followed by the NATO leadership toward Turkey.

As for Turkey's security, the Turkish prime minister has explained this unambiguously, pointing out that the threat to Turkey's security did not come from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries but from Western countries and that the development of international relations since the end of World War II is a convincing example of this fact. Broad Turkish circles are aware that the Pentagon and the NATO hawks have had a number of (?shady) activities carried out on Turkish territory. If one listens to imperialist propaganda, these activities are to defend Turkey from the threat from the north. But, as the prime minister himself said, there is no such threat to Turkey's security. The threat comes from Western countries. Is it not a fact that the American airbase at Incirlik once jeopardized the security of the Turkish nation? As you know, the American U-2 spy plane which took off from this base was shot down in the Soviet Union. It is not true that foreign (?terrorists) used for inimical activities against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries threaten the security of the Turkish nation? These, then, constitute the truth withheld from the Turkish nation for many years.

Foreign bases were established in Turkey. Turkey was dragged into the NATO generals' plans for aggression. Turkey was burdened by military expenditures far in excess of its capacity. And now, as very many people in Turkey are able to see, the cause of all this was quite different from what it seemed. And the real cause? The real cause and goal was to insure the greedy interests of American and other monopolies in the Middle and Near East, including Turkey. Turkey has been subjugated to the interests of Western war adventures and of those who hitched their fortunes to arms manufacturing and the vast profits derived from it.

The Soviet Union has never precipitated war and never will. Everybody with commonsense is aware of this fact. Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko again confirmed this from the rostrum of the UN General Assembly special session discussing disarmament a few days ago. Peace-loving forces, which enjoy the support of most states on our planet, are striving to have resolutions favoring peace, detente and disarmament adopted at this UN General Assembly session. In contrast, the United States is striving to impose on the participants of the NATO meeting in Washington resolutions in favor of an arms race. It is not for nothing that there is a saying: everybody is out of step but me.

FURTHER MATERIAL ON 14TH AKEL CONGRESS ACTIVITIES

Final Session

LD281724Y Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 28 May 78 LD

[Text] Nicosia, May 28, TASS--The 14th Congress of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL) closed here today. It was attended by nearly one thousand delegates. Also present at the congress were representatives of more than 30 fraternal communist and workers' parties and national-liberation movements. The CPSU delegation was led by Secretary of the CPSU CC Yakov Ryabov.

The congress gave a deep Marxist-Leninist analysis of the international situation including the situation in Cyprus. The delegates and foreign guests touched in their speeches on the positive changes in the world achieved by joint efforts of peace forces, in the first place due to the Leninist foreign policy of the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community.

The congress condemned the forces, which continue advocating the arms race, are trying to prevent a rapprochement of states and peoples, impeding the Soviet Union's peace initiatives. Speakers at the congress condemned with wrath and indignation the U.S. plans for the production of the neutron bomb, the aggressive intrigues of imperialism, in the first place U.S. imperialism, in the Middle East, in Africa, in the areas of the Aegean and Mediterranean seas.

The strength of the international communist and working-class movement is in its unity, loyalty to the teaching of Marxism-Leninism and in proletarian internationalism. This idea was emphasized at the congress particularly clearly. Speakers at the congress strongly criticised the anti-Soviet and anti-socialist policy of the present Chinese leadership.

Questions of a peace settlement in Cyprus held a special place in the work of the 14th AKEL Congress. Representatives of the communist parties of Greece, Bulgaria, Cuba, Italy and others stressed that the cause of the lack of settlement of the Cyprus issue lies in the first place in the aggressive striving of NATO and the leading allies in this military bloc who are pressing in every way possible for the turning of the territory of Cyprus into a NATO base in the Mediterranean.

At the same time, the speakers highly evaluated the role and the principled consistency of the Soviet Union's stand on the settlement of the Cyprus crisis and resolutely declared for the implementation at the earliest date of the Soviet proposal on the convocation within the NATO framework of a representative international conference on Cyprus.

The congress adopted a number of final documents. Its political resolution contains an all-round analysis of the international and internal situation, outlined ways of further struggle for peace and social progress, for the speediest and democratic settlement in Cyprus. The address to the people of Cyprus adopted by the congress says that the main enemy of Cyprus is imperialism and the NATO bloc. The document stresses the necessity of broadening ties with the real friends of Cyprus, in the first place the Soviet Union, a great friend and ally of the Cypriots.

The congress elected leading party bodies. E. Papaioannou has been again elected general secretary of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL).

The congress of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus has been an important political event not only for AKEL, but also for all the working people of the country. The decisions taken at it will contribute towards a further strengthening of the internal front of the struggle of the Cypriots in the interests of preserving the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus.

Ryabov Meets Cyprus Official

LD310330Y Moscow TASS in English 2122 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Nicosia, May 30 TASS--Secretary of the CPSU CC, Yakov Ryabov leading the CPSU delegation currently on a visit here at the invitation of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus CC, met today with president of the parliament of the republic, acting President of Cyprus A. Michaelides.

In the course of the meeting discussed were some international issues as well as the state and prospects of relations between the USSR and Cyprus, the Soviet side again reaffirmed the Soviet Union's principled and consistent stand on the Cyprus issue. The meeting, which proceeded in a warm atmosphere, was attended by USSR Ambassador to the Republic of Cyprus S. Astavin.

Ryabov Departure Statement

LD311832Y Moscow TASS in English 1555 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Nicosia, May 31 TASS--A delegation of the CPSU headed by secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yakov Ryabov left Nicosia for home on May 31 after attending the 14th Congress of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL).

Before departure, the head of the CPSU delegation Yakov Ryabov made the following statement:

On leaving your wonderful island I would like to heartily thank again the AKEL leadership for the invitation to the CPSU delegation to attend the 14th party congress. It is with great satisfaction that we note the depth and sense of responsibility with which Cyprus Communists discussed at their main forum the critically important problems that affect the cardinal interests of the country and the people.

We have seen for ourselves that AKEL is an influential political force in Cyprus and that its prestige is constantly growing.

This is explained first of all by AKEL's consistent loyalty to the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, its loyalty to its country, its people and by the party's selfless struggle against foreign imperialist interference and forces of internal reaction.

The 14th AKEL Congress again confirmed this. The congress also demonstrated the monolithic unity of party ranks, demonstrated the internationalist nature of the party. There is no doubt that AKEL is a reliable vanguard of the country's democratic and patriotic forces in the struggle for a just settlement of the Cypurs problem on the basis of United Nations resolutions and in the interests of the entire people--Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots.

We are convinced that the traditional fraternal relations existing between the CPSU and AKEL, between our peoples will be further developed.

Permit me to express once again ardent solidarity with the struggle of the people of Cyprus and confidence that the just cause of the Cypriots will triumph.

GREEK MINISTER ADMITS NATO TO BUILD BASE ON CRETE

LD311358Y Moscow TASS in English 1313 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Athens, May 31, TASS--Reports that a new NATO war base is being built on the island of Crete has been received with alarm in Greece. Several parliament members from the Communist Party of Greece and the PASOK party have announced that they are receiving thousands of letters and telegrams from the inhabitants of Crete, who protest resolutely against the sinister plans of this bloc. Scores of hectares of fertile land are to be confiscated from the farmers to site the war base.

Replying to the statements of parliament members, the National Defense Minister E. Averof-Tositsas admitted that NATO is, indeed, building a base in the indicated area, from which the movements of warships in the region would be controlled. Claiming that the interests of Greece are organically linked with the West, the minister admitted that throughout the recent years Greece had maintained constant ties with the NATO bloc in the military domain.

CONTINUING ARTICLES ON ZAIRE'S SHABA PROVINCE

New Imperialist Interference

LD301501Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 May 78 p 3 LD

[Maj Yu. Gavrilov article: "Interventionists in Zaire"]

[Text] Zaire's Shaba Province virtually has been occupied by troops of the aggressive NATO bloc. Belgian paratroops and French Legionnaires have captured the city of Kolwezi and a number of other centers, around which stubborn armed clashes recently took place between detachments of rebels and the Zaire Army. Photographs of occupiers armed to the teeth, with rolled-up sleeves, submachineguns and ammunition belts, are going the rounds in the world press. Agencies report: The scale of interference is continuing to increase, French Legionnaires have begun a major operation west of Kolwezi, and the United States is "studying the possibility" of additional support for the invasion forces. The U.S. State Department admits that there is a considerable group of U.S. military personnel in Zaire....

Thus NATO armed intervention is in evidence, and it literally conjures up the times of neocolonialism. The world has again encountered a dangerous relapse into the bankrupt imperialist "gunboat diplomacy" in its "modern" modification, which one Paris journal calls "paratroop diplomacy."

Observers point to the preplanned and coordinated nature of this aggressive action by countries of the north Atlantic bloc, emphasizing that it is being carried out under the leadership of the United States through the headquarters of U.S. Gen A. Haig, supreme commander in chief of NATO allied armed forces in Europe. Here military contingents from Belgium and France are allotted the role of a strike force.

Attempts by U.S. officials to disguise U.S. participation in the intervention in Zaire do not bear scrutiny. As Belgian Prime Minister L. Tindemans acknowledged, "Operation Shaba" would have been inconceivable without the United States--not that people across the ocean deny that the NATO invasion of Zaire was coordinated with the White House and is being carried out with White House support.

Let us recall how this "operation" developed. In mid-May news agencies reported fighting between detachments of the Congo National Liberation Front and the Zaire Army in Shaba Province near Kolwezi, Mutshatsha and other centers. Imperialist propaganda immediately hastened to circulate a false report about aggression against Zaire from outside and about the "involvement" of the Soviet Union, Cuba and Angola. But this propaganda myth has burst like a soap bubble. According to the progressive press of African and other countries, the events in Shaba are an internal conflict, and its roots should be sought in the socioeconomic and political situation in Zaire. It is precisely the economic collapse in the country, the decrease in the people's living standards and other things that caused the internal uprising in Zaire, the Belgian paper LE DRAPEAU ROUGE writes.

As subsequent events have shown, these fabrications were necessary to those who were planning military interference in the conflict in Zaire. In the name of what? The traditional form of imperialist interference in the affairs of young states is well known: The flag follows capital, and soldiers follow the flag. In this sense Zaire and Africa as a whole are no exception. [paragraph continues]

Gen G. Brown, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, has frankly admitted: "The vast Continent of Africa merits attention not only because of its strategically important geographic situation but also because of its increasing value as a source of raw materials...." As for Zaire, the NATO countries' imperialist monopolies long ago extended their grasping tentacles toward this country rich in copper, tin, diamonds, manganese, bauxite, uranium, cobalt.... Incidentally, it was from here that the uranium came for the atom bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. A considerable proportion of these riches is concentrated in Shaba Province, which is now occupied by NATO military subunits. The capital investments of U.S. monopolies in Zaire are valued at $1 billion. Taking into account the existence in Zaire of important strategic raw materials that are used in the military industry, it is not hard to deduce an interest in controlling them by circles closely linked with the military-industrial complexes of the United States and other NATO countries.

It was in order to save their positions in Zaire that the lie about "Soviet and Cuban interference" was concocted. Recently it has been resorted to increasingly frequently in the United States and NATO to camouflage the increase in their military and political interference in the affairs of countries on the African Continent. It was in the name of preserving NATO's mercenary political and economic interests that Belgian paratroops and French Legionnaires were urgently transferred to Zaire with direct U.S. support. During the intervention the Pentagon insured the smooth operation of the "airlift" to Zaire by U.S. military transport aircraft. Aircraft with U.S. crews delivered NATO servicemen military equipment, fuel and ammunition to Zaire--to Kinshasa and Lubumbashi airports and to Kamina air base. The 82d Airborne Division was placed on combat alert in the United States "just in case."

NATO propaganda is now trying its utmost to whitewash the interventionists' actions in Zaire. A further myth has been circulated--about some "humane" mission by the invasion forces. Military interference has been undertaken, it is said, to "save the lives and property of foreign citizens," that is, Americans and Europeans who found themselves in the combat zone between the rebels and the Zaire Army in Shaba Province. But the facts also refute this spurious argument. Hypocritical statements about "rescuing" Europeans are no more than a cover for military interference in Zaire's internal affairs and in the fighting between the rebels and the troops of the Kinshasa regime. It is significant that now that virtually all foreign citizens have been brought out of Shaba, the Belgian and French troops are still occupying Shaba, referring to the "uncertainty of the situation."

Moreover, eyewitnesses tell of outrages in the city of Kolwezi, the responsibility for which they place on the interventionists and the Zaire Army. The British newspaper THE SUN writes that Europeans returning from Zaire describe the Zaire soldiers as "drunken marauders who killed whites indiscriminately." According to Western press reports, the interventionists themselves unleashed the present terror in and around Kolwezi together with marauding Zaire soldiers. The very Europeans they were supposedly "rescuing" became their victims, along with Africans. French soldiers are trigger-happy, a Belgian army captain returning from Shaba told a REUTER correspondent. A group of Europeans setting out for the airport to be evacuated, this correspondent reports, was shot on the spot because they did not have identity cards. As regards Africans, the Legionnaires immediately open fire when they caught sight of them. "Blacks do not count with them at all," the Belgian newspaper LE SOIR testifies. Citing similar testimony, Britain's THE MORNING STAR sums up: In fact the Europeans in Zaire were used as cover for the Western powers' intervention. "The so-called humane 'rescue mission,'" the newspaper points out, "became what it was meant to become right from the start--a hunt for people aimed at saving the neocolonialist Mobutu regime."

Observers also point out, now without reason, that another intention behind NATO's aggressive action in Zaire is to bring the country into the orbit of its military preparations in Africa. Thus the French newspaper LE MONDE links the armed intervention to the NATO countries' desire to insure the preservation of the big rocket-testing ground created in Zaire by the West German firm OTRAG, to which Western circles attach exceptional significance.

According to press reports, certain circles are now nurturing dangerous plans for the "internationalization" of the intervention in Zaire. Information has been received on the arrival of Israeli military specialists in the country. There is talk of knocking together so-called "inter-African forces," to which NATO is not averse to allocating the functions of policemen for interference in internal Zaire affairs. Troops from Egypt, Morocco, the Ivory Coast, Senegal and other countries are being named as possible future members of these forces. Incidentally, the Arab press has written about the involvement of military aircraft piloted by Egyptians and about the arrival of a group of Moroccan servicemen in Zaire. Imperialism's tactics are obvious: to disguise its own flagrant interference and to implement its old plan--to handle Africans with Africans in the name of insuring Western interests. These interests are also served objectively by the stand taken by Peking, which, instead of condemning NATO's intervention in Zaire, has slandered the Soviet Union and Cuba by accusing them of "interfering" in the affairs of African peoples. In a word, the imperialists and Maoists are playing the same tune in an attempt to confuse the African peoples with plainly false music.

As long as two decades ago a U.S. bulletin wrote: "If there is any word that means Africa for Americans... that word is Congo". For millions of Africans the present intervention by the United States and its allies in Zaire, the former Belgian colony of the Congo, means U.S. and NATO policy of armed interference in the affairs of sovereign countries. "We are trying," the leader of the Washington administration recently declared, "to extend our own role in Africa's daily affairs in a new way." The events in Zaire show that this "new" role smacks of double-dyed colonialism.

Provocative Statement by Chimanga

LD311900Y Moscow TASS in English 1830 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] London, May 31 TASS--The newspaper THE DAILY TELEGRAPH published a statement by a certain K. Chimanga who poses as a military leader of the so-called Front for the National Liberation of the Congo which is, according to the newspaper's report, at the head of the rebel movement in Shaba Province. That figure, according to the newspaper's report, alleged that the Zairean rebels are assisted by the Soviet Union, Cuba and Angola, and that soldiers and officers of the rebel forces were trained and continue to be trained in the Soviet Union, Cuba and Angola. The statement, which is provocative from beginning to end, is designed to justify in the eyes of the public the NATO countries' intervention in Zaire.

MATERIAL ON DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO EHTIOPIA

Proposal for Eritrean Peace

LD312348Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Gennadiy Ariyevich]

[Text] News agencies report that the EthiopianGovernment has proposed to insurgents in the northeastern Province of Eritrea that they call a halt to the fighting and begin peace talks.

This statement from the Ethiopian authorities was issued in Rome by the Ethiopian Embassy. It recalls previous proposals by the Provisional Military Administrative Council for a settlement of the Eritrean problem on the basis of insuring the autonomy of the province within the framework of a unified state. Ethiopia has warned enemies of the revolution against interfering in its internal affairs over the events in Eritrea. It has accused reactionary Arab regimes of giving military support to the insurgents.

Life in Besieged Asmara

LD311607Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 78 p 4 LD

[Correspondent V. Korovikov report: "Asmara Today"]

[Text] Asmara, May--"Asmara--Ethiopia's second largest city and the country's major industrial center and capital of its northern Province of Eritrea--is experiencing hard times. The actions of the separatists have put Asmara in a difficult position," the city's mayor said: "For many months now ground communication routes to the city have been blocked. Asmara is now linked with Addis Ababa and the ports of Assab and Massawa and other regions of Ethiopia only by an 'air bridge.' Dozens of journeys are made each day by transport aircraft supplying the 250,000 inhabitants of the city and military units with necessary provisions."

For about 3 years no foreign journalist has visited Asmara, although the bourgeois press frequently publishes frightening descriptions of the critical situation in the city. I was prepared to see a "half-dead" city with destruction and devastation. But even my journey from the airport to the city center and my first meetings and impressions refuted such notions. There were many passers-by on the clean, tidy streets. The majority of stores and even movie theaters are in operation, as before, advertisements for old "hits" make a colorful display on their walls. The city's hotels are taking in guests. Three newspapers, in Tigrinya, Amharic and Arabic, are published regularly. Worship takes place in the temples of the Ethiopian church, the big Catholic cathedral on the main street, and in the enormous mosque towering on the hill. Schools and colleges are operating. There is a brisk trade in the markets from early morning. Prices, of course, have soared, particularly for logs, coal, vegetables and fruit. Were it not for the absence of vehicles on the streets--there is no gasoline--you might think that life in the city was proceeding as normal.

But things are still a long way from normal life here. A strict curfew is in operation. There are military posts at all entrances and exits.

"Some 250,000 people," the mayor of Asmara continues, "have to be fed and provided with water and municipal services. Epidemics must be prevented, and security for the people must be sought in a frontline situation. The country's government has made major financial and material sacrifices. Judge for yourself. Workers and employees receive full wages, although a considerable proportion of enterprises are idle or operating only partially--there is neither energy nor raw material. Inhabitants are being provided with necessities at fixed prices. I can say that no epidemics or deaths from hunger have been recorded in the city, and this is a considerable achievement in our situation. I should like to note the part played by Soviet doctors. A large group of your specialists is now working in our country. An antituberculosis service has been established with their aid, and this disease is very widespread in our regions. They helped the work of the psychoneurological hospital, which was left without doctors, and gave valuable advice on the organization of all health services in the city. And--the main point--every day they heal and operate on hundreds of people."

(Yov Gebre-Kristos), the province's deputy chief administrator, joins in the conversation:

"We calculate that about two-thirds of the food and almost all medicine and fuel are now being delivered to Asmara by airlift. This costs the state a lot, but the government believes it has the duty to help the people withstand the hard times. And it must be said that this policy is bearing fruit."

Representatives of bureaus to organize the people's masses told me how the local organs of power are becoming increasingly effective every day. Some 14 women's and 10 youth organizations have been created and are operating. Almost 300 circles where people study the program of national democratic revolution are operating. A meeting was held recently at the city stadium; tens of thousands of people attended. A collection of assets and funds has been held to help war victims. Asmara inhabitants celebrated with great enthusiasm the victory in Ogaden--a victory in defense of Ethiopia's territorial integrity.

The main concerns of the local authorities are about the people's daily bread, fuel and work. The city's big thermal powerstation is idle--there is no fuel. Only a few small diesel installations have been commissioned and are operating. It is from these that lighting goes to houses, schools and hospitals. Several enterprises have even succeeded in assembling their own generators. Thus the footwear factory recently began to operate again. There are about 70 large enterprises in the city, and the resumption of their work is very important.

The Ethiopian Government has frequently stated its desire for peace. The program of the national democratic revolution precisely and clearly enshrines provisions of the full equality of representatives of all nationalities and all religious groups in the country. Back in May 1976 a political declaration on the peaceful settlement of this province's problems was proclaimed to resolve the Eritrean crisis, which is largely inherited from the overthrown regime.

Mengistu on Socialist Development

LD281439Y Moscow TASS in English 1355 GMT 28 May 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, May 28, TASS--Only socialism can ensure the resolution of our country's complex problems in the interests of the mass of the people, and the Ethiopian revolution is determined to follow the road of socialist development, said Chairman of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council Mengistu Haile Mariam.

As a result of the radical socio-economic reforms which were carried out in the country during the years of the revolution, the level of agricultural and industrial output is steadily rising, he noted. But the foreign aggression unleashed by international imperialism as well as the subversive activity of internal counter-revolution inflicted considerable damage on the national economy which adversely affects the implementation of the development plans. As a result of the Somali intervention in the east of this country alone, tens of industrial and agricultural facilities, bridges and roads were destroyed, there were considerable casualties among the civilian population, thousands of local inhabitants lost their homes. That is why the reconstruction of the economy destroyed by the war and aid to the population of war-ravaged areas is one of the top-priority tasks facing the Ethiopian revolution at present.

Mengistu Haile Mariam expressed confidence that the Ethiopian working people will win an ultimate victory over home and foreign reaction and will be able to concentrate all of their efforts on peaceful construction, on creating and fundamentals of socialist society.

NORMALCY SAID TO RETURN TO MALAGASY REPUBLIC

LD311936Y Moscow TASS in English 1850 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Antananarivo, May 31, TASS--Tranquility and order have been restored in all the districts of the capital of Madagascar after the two-day unrest provoked by reactionary and hooligan elements. Enterprises, shops and educational establishments are again functioning normally in the city. The events in Antananarivo, says a government communique issued here today, are one link in the chain of the activities of international imperialism which acts against the progressive regimes in Africa and in the Indian Ocean area. The opponents of social transformations in Madagascar, however, failed to weaken the revolution. They were given a resolute rebuff by the forces of the order and by the entire population of the country. The revolution in the Democratic Republic of Madagascar won another triumph, the communique emphasizes.

LAMIZANA REELECTED PRESIDENT OF UPPER VOLTA

LD292009Y Moscow TASS in English 1952 GMT 29 May 78 LD

[Text] Yaounde, May 29, TASS--General Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana was reelected president of the Republic of Upper Volta following presidential elections held in the country. The Ministry for Internal Affairs and security of the republic reported that, according to incomplete estimates, 711,736 out of one million 300 thousand ballot-papers, found to be valid, were cast for him. General Lamizana was supported at the elections by six political parties of the republic, including the Voltaic Democratic Union, which had secured 28 out of 57 seats in the National Assembly during parliamentary elections on April 30 this year. The parliamentary and presidential elections were held in the Republic of Upper Volta within the framework of transition to civilian rule announced by President Lamizana.

MOSCOW POLICE CLEAR STUDENTS FROM TOGOLESE EMBASSY

LD301500Y Paris LE FIGARO in French 27-28 May 78 p 10 LD

[Text] Ten Togolese students were slightly hurt in their embassy in Moscow on Thursday during a demonstration against "the deterioration of their living conditions in the USSR" owing to price rises. Some 40 young people had come along to protest.

This piece of information was supplied yesterday by Togolese student circles, which claim that the clashes took place when the premises were cleared by Moscow police, helped by embassy staff. The demonstrators were taken away in trucks and released in the city shortly afterward, having been given their freedom.

According to these same sources, the embassy was occupied on Thursday from 1100 through 1700 in an effort to persuade the authorities to agree an increase in monthly grants, insure better distribution of the tickets enabling the students to return to their country every 3 years and take responsibility for transport of baggage at the end of their studies.

There are approximately 260 Togolese students living in the Soviet Union.

USTINOV, RAM ADDRESS BANQUET IN MOSCOW

BK261048Y Delhi ISI in English 0902 GMT 26 May 78 BK

[Text] Defence Minister Jagjivan Ram said on 25 May that the Indo-Soviet treaty had strengthened friendship between the two countries, reports PTI.

The defence minister made his first public reference to the treaty of 1971 in his current visit at a banquet he gave in honour of his host, Soviet Defence Minister Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov.

He said the treaty was appropriately described as one of peace, friendship and cooperation. Its aim was peace and friendship, non-interference, respect for sovereignty and mutual aid in times of necessity. It was not only a document between governments but expressed the sentiments of the two peoples for each other.

The chiefs of services and First Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Maltsev were among those present at the banquet given on Jagjivan Ram's return from his overnight tour of an air-base and naval facilities at the Black Sea port of Sevastapol.

Ram said he was highly impressed by the most modern equipment he saw and by the defence might of the Soviet Union. Some of the Soviet equipment was in use in India too, he added.

The defence minister, who was accompanied on the trip by General Pavlovskiy, commander-in-chief of land forces, and India's Ambassador I.K. Gujral, reiterated that his trip was not intended to acquire anything new but only to strengthen still more the friendship between the two countries.

Jagjivan Ram said Indo-Soviet friendship had deep roots and was based on common ideals of peace and freedom. While still struggling for independence, India had derived support and inspiration from the Soviet Union. For its part, India too regarded its own freedom incomplete so long as people elsewhere remained under the colonial yoke.

He said the strength of the Soviet Union and India was not intended to attack anyone but for defence against aggression and the leaders of two countries had stated this time and again.

The defence minister spoke of the value of personal contacts at all levels including defence personnel and said the Soviet Union had always tried to help India build its own defence industry. India was grateful and he was confident that in the future too the friendship between the two countries would grow and contribute to enduring peace in the world.

In his reply, Marshal Ustinov too made a warm reference to the treaty as a factor in the long-standing ties of cooperation which he was confident would grow between the two peoples and armed forces. He said on the matters discussed with the Indian visitor the positions of the two countries were identical or close.

The Soviet Union and its great southern neighbour, India, he said, tried to build relations with each other and others on the basis of sovereign equality and non-interference. The two countries cooperated in the international sphere as well.

Marshal Ustinov said the key question today was ending the arms race and prevention of nuclear catastrophe. War in any one area could go beyond its borders and involve other peoples. That was why disputed questions should be resolved by peaceful means at the negotiating table, he added.

Marshal Ustinov reminded his host that [words indistinct] of Soviet people he--Ram--might have also seen monuments to those who died in the last war. The Soviet Union lost 20 million people. The wounds of war here healed. No one was constructing trenches but instead new houses and gardens. But the horror of war and an attachment to peace are deep-rooted in Soviet hearts and peace was inscribed in the Soviet Constitution as the country's basic policy.

Marshal Ustinov also spoke of the common commitment of the Soviet Union and India to universal peace and friendship and referred appreciatively to Jagjivan Ram's restatement of the policy aims of promoting international cooperation, nonalignment and good neighbourly relations. He wished India every success.

Ram Press Conference

LD311203Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 May 78 p 3 LD

[Text] On the morning of 26 May Indian Defense Minister J. Ram, who had returned to Moscow from a tour of the country, held a press conference for Soviet and Indian journalists.

J. Ram assessed highly the treaty on peace, friendship and cooperation concluded between India and the Soviet Union. He noted that his present visit has provided yet further convincing testimony to the fact that relations between the two countries are developing favorably and accord with the interests of the Soviet and Indian peoples.

The Indian defense minister told journalists of his meetings and talks with Soviet state and military leaders and his visit to military units and the Red Banner Black Sea Fleet and imparted his impressions of his tour of the country.

In conclusion, J. Ram conveyed best wishes to the peoples and leaders of the Soviet Union and personnel of the Soviet Armed Forces.

Defense Minister Departs

LD311201Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 May 78 p 3 LD

[Text] Indian Defense Minister J. Ram, who was in the Soviet Union on an official friendly visit at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, left the Soviet Union on 26 May.

At Sheremetyevo Airport J. Ram was seen off by Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces and USSR first deputy defense minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense minister; USSR deputy defense ministers Army General I.G. Pavlovskiy, Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov and Army General S.K. Kurkotkin and other generals and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces.

I.K. Gujral, Indian ambassador to the USSR, was among the sendoff party.

USSR TRADE MINISTER COMMENTS ON AFGHAN-SOVIET PROTOCOL

LD260950Y Moscow in Dari to Afghanistan 1300 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Passages within quotations are recorded in Russian fading to Dari translation]

[Text] Following talks which took place in an atmosphere of understanding, mutual friendship and cooperation, a trade protocol between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] was signed in Moscow on 23 May.

On behalf of the Soviet Government, the protocol was signed by Ivan Grishin, USSR deputy minister of foreign trade, and on behalf of the DRA by Abdossalam, deputy minister of trade. Following the signing of this document, Ivan Grishin, the USSR deputy minister of foreign trade, addressed the Afghan delegation: "Permit me to present my congratulations on the conclusion of the talks on the exchange of goods between our countries for the year 1978. This is the first big document to be signed by our governments following the revolution in your country. We have always enjoyed extremely cordial relations with the people of Afghanistan. However, the recent talks took place in an atmosphere of special cordiality, good understanding and mutual cooperation. I wish to express gratitude to the members of the Afghan delegation for their friendly attitude toward the exchanges which were the subject of our talks upon which agreement was reached in a very short time."

"The volume of the exchange of goods between our countries, compared to the previous year, is rapidly expanding. The Soviet Union is exporting to the DRA machinery, various types of equipment, petroleum products, ferrous metals, cars, cement, sugar and borax, cultural and consumer goods; and will import from Afghanistan natural gas, cotton, wool, raw hides, dried fruit, (?leather), citrus fruits, olives, carpets and various other goods."

"It is expected that the development of Soviet-Afghan trade relations will pave the way for strengthening the ties of friendship between our peoples taking advantage of the revolutionary victory of the people of Afghanistan and the inception of the new life in the DRA."

Abdossalam, the DRA deputy minister of trade, in his reply, said: [passage indistinct]

TARAKI CITES NEED TO CONSOLIDATE REVOLUTIONARY GAINS

LD311816Y Moscow TASS in English 1759 GMT 31 May 78 LD

["Protecting the Gains of the Revolution"--TASS headline]

[Text] Kabul, 31 May, TASS--The Government of Afghanistan is doing everything possible to liquidate all the remnants of exploitation, inequality and injustice inherited from the former regime, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan N. M. Taraki said at a meeting with representatives of the population who had come from various parts of the country. The despotic regime of Daud, the last representative of the dynasty of Nadir Shah, was liquidated as a result of the April 27 revolution, accomplished under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. The principle gain of the revolution, N.M. Taraki noted, is that the working people of Afghanistan became the lawful inheritors to all the country's wealth.

We are now faced by a task of prime importance--to ensure the people with food, clothing, and housing. Owing to support by the broad segments of working people for the program of progressive socio-economic transformations, set forth by the Revolutionary Council, this immediate aim will be attained, N.M. Taraki stressed.

In conclusion, the chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan said that the People's Democratic Party, which has the support of the country's workers, peasants and intellectuals, is standing guard over the people's true interests and will not permit either internal or external enemies of Afghanistan to encroach on the gains of the revolution.

INDIAN MINISTER FORESEES COOPERATION WITH AFGHANISTAN

LD301548Y Moscow TASS in English 1540 GMT 30 May 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, May 30, TASS-[words indistinct] not think that the recent events in Afghanistan will prevent consolidation of stability and widening of cooperation in the region, India's Minister of External Affairs Atal Bihari Vajpayee said at a press conference in Delhi. He pointed out that the new Afghan Government can out with several statements which attest to Afghanistan's striving to continue advancing along the road of non-alignment. Close relations between India and Afghanistan, specifically commercial, economic and technical relations must strengthen and develop in the future for establishment of [word indistinct] and widening of mutually advantageous economic cooperation in the region, Atal Bihari Vajpayee said.

BRIEFS

TASS-AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY AGREEMENT--Kabul, May 31, TASS--An agreement on cooperation between TASS and the Afghan news agency BAKHTAR was signed here today. The agreement provides for an expansion of mutual exchange of news, and for cooperation in the field of reception and transmission of news. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1032 GMT 31 May 78 LD]

INDOCHINA

LE DUAN, ROMANIA'S CEAUSESCU ADDRESS HANOI MEETING

LD310953Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Hanoi, 25 May TASS--A meeting of the public of the capital of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was held here today in connection with the friendly visit of a party and state delegation headed by N. Ceausescu, secretary general of the RCP and president of Romania.

Addressing the meeting, Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee, noted the successes of the Romanian people in building socialism. We receive the high Romanian guests with great joy at a time when the Vietnamese people have entered a new revolutionary stage, he said. The tasks set by the Fourth CPV Congress and the second and third plenums of the party's Central Committee in restoring the national economy and transforming the private sector in industry and trade in the south are being fulfilled successfully.

Touching on the international situation, the general secretary of the CPV Central Committee pointed out that profound changes have occurred in the correlation of forces in the world over the past 30 years. The struggle of the peoples of developing countries has entered a new stage--the stage of struggle to create a new international economic order.

Le Duan emphasized the Vietnamese people's determination to strengthen and develop the traditional friendly relations with all countries of Indochina. He expressed regret over the conflict between Vietnam and Kampuchea and stated that Vietnam's stand receives the approval and support of the world's public.

In a reply speech, H. Ceausescu recalled that in the years of the Vietnamese people's war the Romanian people gave them support and assistance. The talks that have taken place during this visit, he said, have enabled us to understand and see the successes achieved in restoring the economy, developing the country and advancing Vietnam along the path of socialism.

USSR, LAOS SIGN CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE PROGRAM

LD241357Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 May 78 p 5 LD

[Text] TASS--A program of cultural and scientific exchange between the USSR and the Lao People's Democratic Republic was signed in Moscow 22 May.

The program provides for the exchange of delegations of scientific and cultural figures, students, teachers, creative collectives, exhibitions and other measures between the two countries.

BRIEFS

AWARD FOR TRAINING VIETNAMESE--The Kharkov Polytechnical Institute has been awarded the Vietnamese Friendship Order for cadre training for the national economy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. This high award was presented on 20 May at a solemn meeting in the students palace by (Ngu Yem Ba Thuai), counsellor of the SFRY Embassy in the Soviet Union. In 18 years the Kharkov Polytechnical Institute graduated more than 300 Vietnamese engineers in 25 specialities. [Text] [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 21 May 78 AU]

KOSYGIN ADVISES JAPAN NEWSPAPER GROUP TO AVOID PRC TREATY

OW010035Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0016 GMT 1 Jun 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, May 31, KYODO--Soviet Premier Aleksey Kosygin claimed Wednesday China was preparing for war in the belief that war with the Soviet Union is unavoidable. He said China also was pressing policies for war preparation on various countries in the world, including the United States. He believed that China also will press similar policies on Japan.

Kosygin said this during a 90-minute meeting with a visiting mission of the Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association, led by Tomoo Hirooka, chairman of ASAHI SHIMBUN.

Kosygin's remarks were interpreted by observers as a "warning" to Japan to undertake negotiations with China on the peace and friendship treaty with extreme caution. Members of the Japanese mission also said the Soviet premier criticized China for its continued conducting of nuclear tests. They quoted him as saying that conducting of the tests represents a challenge to international opinion seeking disarmament.

Kosygin claimed that some newspapers in Japan were supporting the conclusion of the Sino-Japanese peace and friendship treaty. This means that they are supporting war policies against the Soviet Union, he said. When the mission members told Kosygin that they did not believe the Sino-Japanese treaty will have an adverse affect on Japan-Soviet relations, the premier retorted that he did not believe that conclusion of a peace treaty with a country advocating the necessity of war with the Soviet Union will result in promotion of Japan-Soviet relations. He wondered whether Japan will react favorably if the Soviet Union concludes a treaty with a country advocating war with Japan.

As to future prospects of Sino-Soviet relations, the premier said that holding of discussions on peace with China may be possible when the time comes. But he criticized the Hua Kuo-feng leadership, saying that China is not making a response to constructive proposals made by the Soviet Union, such as at the border negotiations.

TASS Report

LD311540Y Moscow TASS in English 1233 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 31, TASS--Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR received a delegation of the Japanese Newspaper Publishers' and Editors' Association, led by Tomoo Hirooka, president of the association, chairman of the board of directors of the newspaper ASAHI SHIMBUN in the Kremlin today. The delegation is in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the journalists' union of the USSR.

During the conversation, which passed in a friendly atmosphere, an exchange of views was held on a number of international questions and Soviet-Japanese relations.

Aleksey Kosygin noted the existence of considerable objective possibilities for the further development of mutually beneficial cooperation between the USSR and Japan in the sphere of trade, economic, scientific-technical and cultural contacts and emphasized that, given the two sides' good will and sincere striving for the development of good-neighbourly relations, the possibilities can be translated into life.

The deepening of the process of detente, and the strengthening of mutual trust between states on this basis is of fundamental importance for creating favourable conditions for wider international cooperation in Asia, just as throughout the world. Attempts to hinder this process by heightening the military threat or political stratagems aimed at pitting some states against others run counter to the vital interests of the peoples, and to their economic and social progress.

The participants in the meeting stressed the usefulness of contacts between the two countries through the media--the press, radio and television, so that wider and objective information would deepen the atmosphere of mutual understanding and friendship between the Soviet and Japanese peoples.

BRIEFS

JAPANESE TV DELEGATION--A delegation of eight companies affiliated with the Japanese Asahi television corporation, currently visiting the Soviet Union, arrived in Leningrad on the night of 15 May following a tour of Yerevan, Kiev and Tallin. The delegation will stay in Leningrad visiting places of historical and cultural interest through 18 May, and return to Moscow on the morning of 19 May by train. [Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 16 May 78 OW]

CUBA'S RODRIGUEZ REBUTS CLAIMED INVOLVEMENT IN SHABA

LD311802Y Moscow TASS in English 1745 GMT 31 May 78 LD

["Rebuff to Slanderers"--TASS headline]

[Text] New York, May 31 TASS--Deputy Chairman of the State Council of Ministers of Cuba Carlos Rafael Rodriguez resolutely rebuffed the authors of the propaganda campaign in the United States about Cuba's alleged "complicity" in the events in Zaire. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez heads the Cuban delegation to the special session of the United Nations General Assembly. In an interview to the ABC Television Company he refuted the slanderous concoctions about Cuba sending military personnel or equipment to Shaba Province. Cuba, he stressed, is not connected in any way with the events in Zaire.

One feels the hand of the CIA in the lies that are being directed lately against Cuba, Rodriguez said. This is not the first time that the CIA engages in spreading such misinformation.

KUZNETSOV PRESENTS FRIENDSHIP ORDER TO ARGENTINIAN COMMUNIST

LD311510Y Moscow TASS in English 1447 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 31, TASS--Vasiliy Kuznetsov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice-president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, presented in the Kremlin today the People's Friendship Order to Rodolfo Rioldi, prominent public and political leader of Latin America, one of the founders and leaders of the Communist Party of Argentina.

Vasiliy Kuznetsov conveyed to Rodolfo Rioldi hearty congratulations in connection with his decoration and the best wishes from Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

This decoration, Rodolfo Rioldi said, testifies once more to the profound mutual sentiments of fraternity and respect, uniting the CPSU and the Communist Party of Argentina. The programme of peace, proclaimed by the 24th and furthered by the 25th CPSU congresses, is being implemented with unprecedented energy and consistency, he said. Its inspirer is Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, the recognized standard-bearer of the struggle for peace.

ABKHAZ WISH TO TRANSFER TO RSFSR AGAINST CONSTITUTION

LD311251Y Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 26 May 78 p 1 LD

[Apparent text of undated "Speech by Comrade I.V. Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at a meeting of the Abkhazskaya Oblast Party Organization Aktiv"]

[Text] Comrades: The speech by Comrade Adleyba, first secretary of the obkom, has talked concisely, but rather pithily about what the Abkhazskaya Oblast party organization is living for and working on today. Indeed, there is much to do both in the economic and political spheres.

It is evident from this speech that this is a very serious and highly crucial period in the life of the autonomous republic. Great tasks of tremendous political importance must be solved by the communists, leading cadres and all the numerous aktiv of Abkhazia.

I would like to dwell briefly on the situation in the country. Comrades, it is a really creative and healthy situation in the moral and political sense.

Everywhere Soviet people are striving to produce more and to better standards for the sake of the common good. The nationwide socialist competition to fulfill and overfulfill the 1978 national economic plan and the targets of the 10th 5-Year Plan as a whole has gained unprecedented scope.

And the efforts of the country's working people are yielding positive results. In the first 2 years since the 25th CPSU Congress our socialist society has made considerable headway in every sphere of economic, sociopolitical and spiritual life.

The current year is also marked by good deeds. Substantial results have been achieved in the first 4 months in industry, which is developing in accordance with the outlined plans. The working people of all sectors of Soviet industry are insuring stable labor productivity growth, the improvement of output quality and the further improvement of equipment and technology. And this means, comrades, that the party's slogan "Make the 10th 5-Year Plan One of Efficiency and Quality!" is being implemented.

This slogan has also been adopted in the agrarian sector of our economy. You are all well aware that much has also been achieved there in the last 2 years. Rural working people are now struggling selflessly for a high harvest in the third year of the 5-year plan. This struggle is taking place under very complex conditions. Spring is bringing surprises everywhere, in literally every republic. However, all these difficulties are surmountable since our agriculture is stronger than ever in the technical, economic and every other respect. This is the guarantee of new successes in implementing our party's agrarian policy.

Today I want to note with satisfaction that great credit for the country's achievements is due to the working people of Soviet Georgia, which has been awarded a Challenge Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee for the results of both the first and the second years of the 5-year plan.

The labor of the Abkhazskaya Autonomous Republic, which last year won a union republic Challenge Red Banner, also counts for much in this.

I want to take this opportunity to wholeheartedly congratulate all of you on these successes and to wish you great new achievements for the good of our great Soviet motherland and for the happiness of all Soviet people.

Comrades! For more than one-third of a century now the Soviet people have been living and working under peaceful skies. This is the greatest good fortune. And everyone realizes what efforts it costs to achieve this. Everyone is well aware of the tremendous, titanic work carried out by our party, its Central Committee and Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally to elaborate and implement practically the Leninist foreign policy line.

Leonid Ilich's political wisdom, the strength of his scientific foresight and his remarkable talent as an organizer impart consistency and fruitfulness to all our work to solve domestic and foreign policy tasks.

Comrades! The strength of our Leninist party lies in the fact that all Soviet people take its policy to heart and regard the tasks it sets as their own vital concern. This is displayed particularly vividly and clearly today.

The discussion and adoption of the new USSR Constitution and of the union republic constitutions have been cogent evidence of the inviolable unity of the party and the people. This is also displayed today, when the draft constitutions are being discussed in the autonomous republics.

It is evident from Comrade Adleyb's speech that Abkhazia's working people are also greeting the published draft constitution with great approval and are thanking the Communist Party and the Soviet Government for their concern for the autonomous republic's development and for the fact that people's life is becoming increasingly good and beautiful. Against this general background the negative features mentioned at the aktiv meeting strike a discordant note.

Comrades! Lately the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and other union organs have been receiving many letters, statements and telegrams--both individual and collective--from Abkhazia. They raise a series of questions, criticize party and soviet organs of both Abkhazia and the Georgian SSR, and voice various proposals and wishes.

The main emphasis is on questions of internation [mezhnatsionalnyy] relations in Abkhazia. In particular, it is said that certain authors misinterpret the history of the Abkhazian people; that questions of restoring Abkhazian geographical names have not been fully solved; that proper attention is not paid to developing the Abkhazian national culture and language. Shortcomings are also pointed out in the training of cadres of Abkhazian nationality and so forth. Certain economic questions are raised.

The party Central Committee displays an attentive attitude toward all these signals and believes that there is a certain basis for raising the above-mentioned and certain other issues.

The republic's party and soviet organs have now elaborated an entire system of measures aimed at eliminating the shortcomings indicated in the letters and verbal statements. You are already aware that a detailed resolution has been adopted by the Georgian CP Central Committee. Comrades, this is an important document that answers many of the questions that have been raised. It also determines a specific action program. Comrade Shevardnadze has raised a number of questions before the CPSU Central Committee that are of vitally great importance for your autonomous republic.

With regard to the area where assistance will be required from union organs (for the university, television and so forth), this assistance will certainly be forthcoming, as far as possible.

Along with all these questions, the question of the possibility of transferring the Abkhazskaya ASSR from Georgia to the RSFSR is also being raised. Proposals are being submitted that a special article on the right to make this switch be written into the constitution.

What can be said about the essence of this question?

There are 20 autonomous republics in our country. The drafts of the new constitutions have now been published and are being widely discussed in each of them. It must be noted that the discussion is going very well and is taking place with high political and labor activeness.

As you know, Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev spoke very cogently and vividly on this at the recent USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium session.

I must tell you, comrades, that similar demands or any other questions running counter to the USSR Constitution and the union republic constitutions have not been advanced anywhere, in any [other] autonomous republic. And the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium rate this highly.

We believe that all the comrades who are advancing or supporting the idea of transferring Abkhazia from one union republic to another will realize the unlawfulness [nepravomernost] of their position and will not insist on this. The future development and further blossoming of Soviet Abkhazia must not be sought in this. This would in no way benefit either Abkhazians or the people of other nationalities inhabiting your republic.

I must inform you that this proposal has been comprehensively examined most carefully in the central organs. And here both the interests of the Abkhazian people and the statewide interests were considered and domestic political and foreign policy circumstances were taken into account. On this basis, it has been deemed inadvisable to solve this question in any way that oversteps the limits of the USSR Constitution and the Georgian SSR Constitution.

Everything concerning the USSR's national state structure is clearly and definitely decided in the new Soviet Constitution. And it would be incorrect if the constitutions of the autonomous republics contained provisions that were at variance with the country's fundamental law.

And another thing. During the discussion of the draft constitution, proposals have been submitted at certain meetings that the Georgian language be excluded from the list of state languages. Is it possible to agree with this opinion?

Of course not, comrades, for this runs fundamentally counter to our party's Leninist national policy.

Comrades! The Abkhazskaya ASSR is a multinational republic. Abkhazians, Georgians, Russians, Armenians--representatives of almost 70 nationalities--live and work here in a harmonious family for the good of our common cause. They are not divided by class interests. They are united by common interests. And the Soviet power is equally concerned for all the peoples. All Soviet people, whatever their nationality, are equally dear to it.

The strength of Soviet society and our socialist state lies in the unity, cohesion and fraternal friendship bequeathed to us by Vladimir Ilich Lenin.

You yourselves, comrades, realize perfectly well that all our successes--economic, political and social--are the result of the joint efforts and joint labor of all our peoples.

During the years of Soviet power the Abkhazskaya ASSR has achieved wonderful successes in economic and cultural building in the fraternal family of Soviet peoples. A working class and kolkhoz peasantry have taken shape and strengthened in the republic, and a people's intelligentsia has grown up. Diverse industrial and agricultural output is produced in ever-increasing amounts. The republic has one of the best health resorts in the Soviet Union. Abkhazia's scientists, writers and artists also have many achievements to their credit.

The bright future of all our peoples and new successes in communist building lie in further strengthening the Leninist friendship among the peoples. This, comrades, applies fully to Abkhazia. The guarantee of the prosperity of your republic lies precisely in strengthening this friendship. And so everyone--in this instance Abkhazians, Georgians, Russians and the working people of the other nationalities--must do everything necessary for this. This is the civic, patriotic and international duty of every Soviet person.

It must be said plainly that any attempt to disrupt, shatter or shake this friendship or undermine one people's trust in another damages our common cause. This would only benefit our opponents.

The people of all the nationalities inhabiting Abkhazia must continue to live and work together side by side on this land.

Each one of us is perfectly aware that problems and certain misunderstandings sometimes arise even among relatives in the same family. And wisdom and political maturity consist in seeking a correct solution to the misunderstandings that arise--a solution along the path of mutual respect and trust and on the path of a generous attitude toward one another.

Very unfortunately, there are people who do not realize this or refuse to realize it; who display a one-sided approach to the matter; who create unhealthy sentiments among other people; who forget that it is only in friendship and only on the basis of friendship that it is possible to find a solution to all the problems that arise.

It is precisely at this--strengthening the fraternal friendship among the peoples and eliminating the shortcomings committed at one time--that the Goregian CP Central Committee resolution, which has already been mentioned, is aimed.

It is now the task of the Georgian CP Central Committee and Abkhazskiy Obkom to insure unconditional implemention of the outlined measures. Serious organizational and mass political work must be aimed at this.

The efforts of all party, soviet, economic, trade union and Komsomol organizations, all our cadres and the broadest public must be focused on this. The CPSU Central Committee expresses confidence that the Georgian CP Central Committee and the Abkhazskiy Obkom will handle all these problems with a sense of lofty responsibility, will prove equal to the situation and will do everything necessary to successfully solve the tasks facing them.

We also hope that the communists and all the citizens of your republic will display political maturity and high consciousness and that, as before, they will make their worthy contribution to successfully fulfilling the 25th CPSU Congress decisions and the 10th 5-year plan targets and to further strengthening and developing the fraternal friendship among the peoples of our great multinational motherland--the USSR.

KAPITONOV SPENDS 'SEVERAL DAYS' IN GEORGIA, ABKHAZIA

LD310939Y Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 26 May 78 p 1 LD

[Text] GRUZINFORM--Comrade I.V. Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committe, has visited Georgia for several days.

Comrade I.V. Kapitonov visited the Abkhazskaya ASSR where he talked with members of the obkom Bureau. He was briefed on the state of affairs in the economy of the autonomous republic and acquainted with the course of the discussion of the draft of the new Abkhazskaya ASSR constitution. Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze, first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, was present at the conversation.

Comrade I.V. Kapitonov delivered speeches at meetings of the Abkhazskaya Oblast party organization aktiv and also the Sukhumi City party aktiv.

During his stay in Tbilisi, Comrade I.V. Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met with members of the Georgian CP Central Committee Bureau who told him about the struggle by the republic's working people to fulfill the historic plans of the 25th CPSU Congress and the plans and high socialist pledges of the third year of the 5-year plan and the 5-year plan as a whole.

Then Comrade I.V. Kapitonov toured construction projects and saw the sights of the republic's capital.

During his stay in Georgia, Comrade I.V. Kapitonov was accompanied by Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze and other leaders of the republic.

GEORGIAN PAPER ON BACKGROUND OF 'DISORIENTED' DISSIDENTS

LD311151Y Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 24 May 78 p 3 LD

[Article by L. Shengelaya: "Bitter Lesson"; Epilog to the Trial of Sam Gamsakhurdia and M. Kostava"]

[Text] The trial of Zviad Gamsakhurdia and Merab Kostava, accused of anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda, has ended in Tbilisi. Their criminal activity was fully proven during the court investigation.

What brought into the dock the son of Konstantine Gamsakhurdia--the great Georgian writer who for several decades asserted and glorified by his creativity the most lofty humane ideals?

It is scarcely possible to answer this question simply, although to a certain degree the answers to it were given in the articles of a number of the republic's newspapers published last year in connection with the unseemly activity of Z. Gamsakhurdia.

At the same time we cannot pass over in silence certain features of Zviad Gamsakurdia's character that played an important part in forming his personality. He grew up in the family of a writer who had created works that became the favorite books of several generations of readers. Seemingly the heroes of these books should have had a beneficial influence on forming Z. Gamsakhurdia's character, but this did not happen.

Z. Gamsakurdia claims to be regarded as a writer, that is, as a creative individual, an artist. And he had such an individual as a model: The hero of the book "The Right Hand of the Great Master," a creative man who devotedly and selflessly served the motherland.

But Z. Gamsakhurdia thirsted for glory. And this unquenched desire to stand out, his immoderately high opinion of himself and his extreme individualism and egocentrism became a reason for eccentric pranks, at the basis of which lay this same desire to attract attention....

Here it must also be said that the people of the republic's and the collectives of the institutions in which Z. Gamsakhurdia and M. Kostava worked had in the past frequently voiced serious concern at their provocative behavior. But they did not heed the voice of the people or their colleagues at work. And then the republic's administrative organs had to intervene in the affair.

But let us return to the trial. The picture of the long, hard, contradictory path of doubts, illusions and errors that led these people into the dock was gradually revealed to the court, which investigated the case of Z. Gamsakhurdia and M. Kostava competently and with restraint and tact.

The active anti-Soviet behavior of G. Gamsakhurdia and M. Kostava began several years ago with the creation of the so-called group (or more accurately little grouping) "For the Defense of Human Rights." Coming under the influence of Western propaganda, which tirelessly shouts about the alleged violation of human rights in the USSR, Z. Gamsakhurdia and M. Kostava began to disseminate literature of anti-Soviet content and to illegally publish journals in which they printed articles discrediting our state and social system and denigrating our republic's achievements.

It is not surprising that such impetuous "activity" was soon noticed in the West. Bourgeois ideological centers were quick to use the writings of the newly emerged champions of "human rights" in the Soviet Union, for their own propaganda purposes. and their authors were immediately placed among those whom they called "dissidents," who are allegedly subjected to persecutions and oppression for their beliefs.

What is a dissident? A man who criticizes shortcomings? But people are not persecuted in the USSR for that. On the contrary, constructive, businesslike, objective criticism is only welcomed in our country. This is borne out quite eloquently by the critical heat that has been accompanying recent publications in our republican press. Ordinary readers boldly reveal shortcomings, suggest ways of overcoming them, and struggle against negative phenomena in our life.

Under Soviet laws citizens are not liable for their beliefs. In our country, we don't prosecute for thinking differently from others, but rather for specific criminal actions: for instance, the regular dissemination of deliberately false fabrications discrediting our state and social system-which is in fact what these same dissidents engaged in.

They make active use of Western propaganda to undermine and weaken the Soviet system and slander and denigrate socialism and socialist democracy.

And in Z. Gamsakhurdia's case a particularly pungent aspect for Western propaganda was the fact that the son of a great writer, one of the founders of Georgian Soviet prose who had firmly established in it the method of socialist realism, was in the "dissidents'" camp.

From Z. Gamsakhurdia's statement in court: My activity in disseminating anti-Soviet literature did great harm to our country. I can see this clearly now. The authors of the works I zealously distributed are people who have a negative, even extremist attitude toward the Soviet state and social system. Moreover, a large proportion of them live abroad, are isolated from our reality and are naturally not informed about the events taking place here. They are totally uninterested in an objective assessment of the phenomena of our life. Everything they say and write is dictated by their hatred for the USSR. Unfortunately, I realize this too late....

How were the acquisition and dissemination of anti-Soviet literature accomplished in practice? Z. Gamsakhurdia indicated to the court that the main supplier of this literature was I. Belousovich, an official of the U.S. Embassy in the USSR. U.S. journalists A. Friendly and D. Shipler, subsequently deported from the Soviet Union for hostile activity, also had a pernicious influence on him.

From Z. Gamsakhurdia's statement in court: Our contacts with Belousovich, Friendly and Shipler were initially of a seemingly harmless nature. Taking advantage of my interest in American literature, Belousovich gave me books I needed. Later, through him, I also began to receive works by anti-Soviet authors.

But I learned the true face of these people when I once heard a broadcast by a foreign radio station. Citing Friendly, who was alleged to have talked to me on the subject, the announcer said that Z. Gamsakhurdia had appealed to the United States immediately to carry out an armed intervention against the USSR. Of course, this is absurd, platant provocation.

(Note: A. Friendly, a former NEWSWEEK correspondent in Moscow, is now employed in the feverish collection and dissemination of anti-Soviet slander and is deputy director of the so-called "Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe" created in the United States on a unilateral basis. The scale of the activity of this "Sovietologist" is eloquently borne out by the following fact: All anti-Soviet lampoons published by the commission carry the note: "For Further Information see A. Friendly.")

Other "kindred spirits" of Z. Gamsakhurdia and M. Kostava--for instance the shameless anti-Soviets A. Amalrik and N. Gorbanevskaya, who are now enscouced in various reactionary emigre centers and have no scruples when it comes to cooperating with the notorious "Radio Liberty"--are also a match for Friendly. As is well know, the programs of this subversive U.S. radio station, which has such a magnificant name, are compiled and edited at CIA headquarters. During many years of flagrant interference in the affairs of other states, it has acquired plenty of experience in launching various sorts of propaganda campaigns aimed against the USSR and the other socialist countries.

From Z. Gamsakhurdia's statement in court: In the West Kostava and I were called dissidents. But we totally disagree with this definition. Every dissident dreams of living abroad, but we did not imagine ourselves outside the land of our ancestors.

In general, I have never been a supporter of the Western way of life. Does not a fact like the kidnaping and murder of Moro already testify to the degradation of the capitalist system? It was the result of the anarchy toward which bourgeois society is moving irresistibly!!!!

A significant admission showing that Z. Gamsakhurdia had at last begun to see clearly. Of course, he did not arrive simply and immediately at an understanding of the real, as opposed to the imaginary, truth about life. But it is important that--and we very much want to believe this--he has turned to face life again after freeing himself painfully from the falsity of the past.

From Z. Gamsakhurdia's statement in court: You may be surprised at the metamorphosis that has taken place in me. I must explain it. I must say that my unseemly actions were caused by the fact that I did not know the essence of life.

Throughout the preliminary investigation, during which I want to stress particularly, the greatest patience and objectivity was shown toward us, my eyes were opened to many things. In particular, I was acquainted with materials relating to persons whom I had sincerely considered to be "fighters" for justice, and who in fact turned out to be slanderers and maligners.

In the past year, many different events have taken place that have made me look at some things differently and revise my former opinions. Thus I joyfully noted that the republic's new constitution legislatively enshrines provisions testifying to the further development of the principles of democracy and to conern for the national culture.

Having analyzed all these facts, I became convinced that I should revise my position. My civic duty required it.

Soviet power offers the best opportunities for patriotic activity. Young people should learn this particularly well.

I want to assure you that in all my life and work to come I will try to atone for my terrible guilt before the motherland.

Of course, neither sincere repentance nor admission of guilt detracts in any way from the crime committed by Z. Gamsakhurdia and M. Kostava. They only make it possible to suggest that the crime was committed not by malicious, long concealed enemies of Soviet power but by disoriented people trapped in the net of bourgeois propaganda. It is not infrequent that such people, although rather late, begin to realize they have made a tragic mistake and try to recover their right to honorably serve the motherland.

Yes, the guilt of Z. Gamsakhurdia and M. Kostava before the country and society is great, immeasurable.

No guilty person must escape responsibility--this provision is the cornerstone of Soviet legality. The laws by which Soviet society lives are the same for everyone.

The sentence passed on Z. Gamsakhurdia and M. Kostava is just and humane. And it has been greeted with approval by the public. In passing sentence, the court took into account not only the repentance and admission of guilt, but also the fact that the accused have children who are minors. This humane sentence is to some extent an advance against the future, an act of faith that the necessary conclusions will be drawn from the bitter lesson.

...Z. Gamsakhurdia and M. Kostava were connected by criminal threads with double-dyed anti-Soviets of the most diverse hues and calibers--with all kinds of people like Friendly, Amalrik and Shipler.

Today these threads have been cut by Soviet justice--cut once and for all.

GRISHIN PARTICIPATES IN MOSCOW AKTIV MEETING

LD311554Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0430 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Summary] A meeting of the capital's party, administrative and economic aktiv has discuss the results of the work of industrial, building, transportation and municipal economic enterprises for last winter and the tasks for 1978-79. "Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, took part in the meeting's work."

BRIEFS

TURKMEN CP PLENUM--A plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkmenistan took place today in Ashkhabad. Under review were tasks of the republican party organization with regard to raising the effectiveness and quality of capital construction in light of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, the subsequent plenums of CPSU Central Committee, and Comrade Brezhnev's instructions and suggestions. S. Gapurov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkmenistan, spoke at the plenum. The plenum stressed that party organizations must inevitably pay more attention to the concentration of capital investments on the most important 5-year plan projects. [Text] (Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 31 May 78 LD)

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

CSA REPORTS PROGRESS IN SPRING SOWING AS OF 29 MAY

LD312154Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] The USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported that as of 29 May kolkhozes and sovkhozes had sown spring crops on 137.3 million hectares. This is 93 percent of the planned figure. Grain and leguminous crops, excluding corn, had been sown on an area of 88.5 million hectares, which is 95 percent of the planned area.

Due to the delayed spring in a number of areas of the country, the sowing of spring crops was slowed and farmworkers have been obliged to make great efforts to carry out fieldwork in good time.

Further Details

LD312155Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] The country's Central Statistical Administration today summed up the results of fieldwork:

Over 137 million hectares have been sown since the start of spring. In the last few days, sowing conditions have been more favorable and the work rate has been high. Grain crops take up most of the area at the present time in Kokchetavskaya, Turgayskaya and Kustanayskaya oblasts and Altayskiy Kray. In the country as a whole, the plan for the sowing of spring wheat has been fulfilled. Farmers are now laying buckwheat and millet in the fields. These crops demand warm weather and are sown late.

The tending of spring crops shoots is proceeding over a large area of the country. In central Russia and the Baltic region there has been a great deal of rain, and the soil has become moistened and can now be loosened and harrowed.

In the central Asian republics more and more farms are starting on the harvest. In addition to the harvesting of winter wheat, the thrashing of short wheat stalks has also begun.

MOSCOW RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL NEWS FOR 30-31 MAY

LD010706 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0500 GMT on 30 May reports that Kazakhstan has fulfilled the plan for wheat sowing. Many farms of the northern oblasts here are today engaged in above-plan sowing, using mainly seeds of strong wheat strains. Kazakhstan's land cultivators intend to produce no less than 26-27 million tons of grain this year.

The radio reports at 0900 GMT on 30 May that in the maritime kray, thanks to the Ipatovo method, 22,000 hectares have been sown to crops which is twice as much as a year ago. In Omskaya Oblast, wheat occupies about 1.5 million hectares and only a few hectares of wheat remain to be sown.

At 1130 GMT on 30 May the radio reports that Tyumenskaya Oblast farmers completed sowing spring wheat on an area of over 500,000 hectares and now sowing of maize, potatoes and vegetables is in progress.

The radio also reports at 1445 GMT on 30 May that Kazakhstan's farmers today completed sowing grain and leguminous crops on an area exceeding 23 million hectares.

At 0700 GMT on 31 May the radio reports that machine operators in Novosibirskaya Oblast today completed sowing wheat; the crops have been sown on an area of 1.585 million hectares and the work took 7 days, using the Ipatovo method.

At 1700 GMT on 31 May the radio reports that Altay's grain farmers completed the sowing of spring wheat. The sowing of strong and hard strains of wheat has been expanded. These strains occupy 2.5 million hectares.

PRAVDA STRESSES NEED FOR EXEMPLARY CROP TENDING

LD310853Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 May 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Concern for Crops"]

[Excerpt] There is an immutable rule in the countryside: Complete crop tending in the shortest possible time. It is sometimes forgotten, however. Farms in Voronezhskaya, Kurskaya and Sumskaya oblasts, for example, have at their disposal everything they need to insure the careful cultivation of plantations, but people here are late in thinning beet crops and violate agricultural techniques. People carry out interrow **preshoot** hoeing slowly in the potato fields in Orlovskaya, Vladimirskaya and Smolenskaya oblasts, which can cause serious harm to the harvest. It is the duty of party committees to make a principled assessment of such instances and to call leaders strictly to account for carelessness.

A great deal of work has to be carried out on the sunflower plantations. They are being tended well on farms in Zaporozhskaya Oblast. In certain regions of the country, however, there are delays in deploying such important agricultural methods as harrowing and applying mineral fertilizers. This valuable oil-bearing crop demands constant concern, and it is essential to create suitable conditions for its development everyhere.

Special attention should be devoted at this time to the struggle against plant pests and diseases. People act correctly where, immediately after the emergence of shoots, they have begun dusting and spraying crops. But there are facts of a different sort. Pests have been discovered on sugar beets, for example, on a number of Lipetskaya Oblast kolkhozes and sovkhozes. People here are in no hurry to destroy dangerous breeding grounds. It is an alarming fact that in some places the machines for tending plantations of intertilled crops have not been repaired or are standing idle. Thus in the Mordovskaya ASSR all the equipment destined for plant protection has still not been adjusted. Industrial workers are also letting farmers down. The Pervomayskiy chemical plant, in particular, violates the schedule for deliveries of preparations to combat beet diseases. The Volgograd Kaustik production association does not dispatch the highly effective herbicide phenazone. It is a matter of honor for leaders of ministries, departments and enterprise party organizations to rectify the situation shortly and to take measures to fulfill their obligations to kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

Exemplary crop tending is a guarantee of the fields' high productivity. It is essential to carry out all operations carefully and to prevent deviations from technology. The role of the agronomic service is particularly great here. The efforts of specialists must be directed toward skillfully organizing people's labor, teaching them progressive methods and insuring two-shift use of machinery everywhere with regard to the Ipatovskiy method. And, of course, keeping a strict eye on work quality. People's controllers and village activists can give field technologists great assistance in this.

In the strenuous period of the struggle for the harvest the role of part committees and primary party organizations is a great one.

They are called upon to mobilize people to fulfill the crucial tasks of the day, to organize efficient cooperation among all production links and to increase the effectiveness of competition. Who is ahead today, and who is lagging behind in crop cultivation? It is important to insure the broad dissemination of progressive experience; assistance to laggards and the correct use of moral and material incentives. Sight also must not be lost of the working and living conditions of the farmers and of those who have come to their assistance.

Insuring good care of the grainfields means creating sound foundations for the harvest. The country's farmers spare no effort in the struggle for high production standards and for the successful fulfillment of the plans and high socialist pledges in the third year of the 5-year plan.

KIEV PAPER CALLS FOR CAREFUL CROP TENDING THIS SPRING

AU311455Y Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0550 GMT 31 May 78 AU

[RADYANSKA UKRAINA editorial: "Let Us Carefully Tend Crops"]

[Excerpt] Crop tending seems to be a prosaic and well known subject. Year in and year out it is emphasized: A well timed and careful crop treatment is one of the most important conditions for obtaining high yields. Undoubtedly, there is a need for this. Each year proves to be somewhat different from the preceding one. This is also the case this year.

One must not overlook the peculiar features of the present spring. It has introduced substantial corrections in the farmers' plans. Certainly, the crops have benefited from the abundant rains, but the cold weather has slowed down the development of cultivated plants, luxuriant weeds have grown, vermins are occasionally making themselves felt and ground crust has covered considerable areas. And if no well timed and persistent struggle is waged against all these enemies of crops, the yields may be wrecked beyond repair. This is why crop tending has acquired a particular meaning this year. This is why this work is now calling for particular pains and high farming skills. Managers and specialists in most farms and rayons have correctly noted the complex conditions. A good example has been set by Ternopolskaya Oblast farmers who initiated socialist competitions among the republic's sugar beet growers.

SOWING BEHIND LAST YEAR IN SOME PARTS OF RSFSR

LD311527Y Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 25 May 78 p 1 LD

[I. Nivin agricultural review: "Treating Each Hour as Precious"]

[Text] At this time the RSFSR's farmers are laboring strenuously. The sowing of cereals and the planting of potatoes, vegetables and other crops are not yet completed, but in the southern and central regions the tending of the crops has already been organized. The carrying out of all agrotechnical measures promptly and to a high standard is the guarantee of a big harvest in the third year of the 5-year plan.

According to data from the RSFSR Central Statistical Administration, by 22 May spring crops had been sown on an area of 63.y million hectares on the republic's farms, which is 73.4 percent of the plan. The increase during the week was about 16.7 million hectares. The tempo of work in the last few days has been higher than a year ago, but in total almost 8 million fewer hectares of spring crops have been sown than by the same date last year.

The sunflower sowing plan has been fulfilled and the sowing of corn for grain and of sugar beet is drawing to a close. Last week, work started on the soya plantations.

The work front in the vast fields of the eastern regions is expanding particularly rapidly. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Siberia and the Far East are to sow more than 24 million hectares--about one-third of the total area of the RSFSR's spring crops. So far they have been sown on an area of 12 million hectares here. The farmers of the eastern regions are paying special attention to grain production. The grain growers of Siberia and the Far East have decided to mark the third year of the 10th 5-year plan with shock labor and to harvest at least 27-28 million tons of grain or 7-8 million tons more than the average for the first 2 years of the 5-year plan. They see their reserves in augmenting harvest yields, improving the structure of the crop areas and increasing the area allocated to grain. In comparison with last year, the area allocated to grain is being increased in Omskaya, Tomskaya and Citinskaya oblasts, in Krasnoyarskiy Kray and in the Buryatskaya ASSR.

By the last date of the reporting period spring grain crops had been sown on an area of 9.9 million hectares in the eastern regions, which is 56 percent of the plan. The sowing of these crops has been completed in the main by the farms of Primorskiy and Khabarovskiy krays but it has been completed on 57 percent in Altayskiy Kray and only 70 percent in Irkutskaya oblast. The spring wheat sowing plan has been fulfilled in Chitinskaya Oblast and in the Buryatskaya and Tuvinskaya ASSRs.

Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, in his talk with the party and economic aktiv of Novosibirskaya Oblast, pointed to the need to increase the production of high quality wheat grain.

Sowings of strong varieties of wheat such as "Saratovskaya-44," "Novosibirskaya-67," "Sibiryachka-4," and "Niva" are being expanded.

Sowing of hulled crops (buckwheat, millet, and rice) are being increased by more than 20,000 hectares this year in comparison with last in Siberia and the Far East.

The distinctive feature of the present sowing campaign is the widespread use of the Ipatovskiy method. This method has been fully adopted by the farms of Altayskiy Kray and of Novosibirskaya, Omskaya and a number of other oblasts. The party, soviet and agricultural organs have done much work to enhance the skill of the machine operators, to allocate the necessary equipment to them and to fully man the sowing units.

According to the opinion of experts, the situation on the fields of Siberia and the Far East is developing favorably. However, it is now very important to treat every hour as precious and not allow any break to occur between the preparation of the soil and the actual sowing.

It is now a busy time for the soya growers of the Far East. Some 703,000 hectares are being allocated to this valuable crop on the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Primorskiy and Khabarovskiy krays and of Amurskaya Oblast, which is 97 percent of the entire area devoted to soybeans in the RSFSR.

So far soybeans have been sown on an area of 112,000 hectares.

In a number of places slowing work is lagging considerably behind last year's level. Over Siberia and the Far East as a whole, spring crops have been sown on 1.5 million fewer hectares. The acceleration of the tempo of field work is frequently hampered by the inadequate preparation of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes for the growing campaign. On the farms of Tomskaya and Irkutskaya oblasts and the Tuvinskaya ASSR far from all the equipment was repaired on time. In Novosibirskaya Oblast alone one-fifth of the K-700 tractors have been unable to go out onto the fields. The degree of readiness of potato planting machines in Chitinskaya, Tomskaya and Amurskaya oblasts and in the Tuvinskaya and Buryatskaya ASSRs is low.

IMPORTANCE OF STRICTLY KEEPING MILITARY SECRETS STRESSED

LD311445Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 May 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Strictly Keeping Military Secrets"]

[Text] Every USSR citizen entering the ranks of the Soviet Armed Forces, on taking the military oath, vows to be vigilant and to strictly keep military and state secrets. Internal service regulations also demand this. The strict fulfillment by every serviceman of the demands of the oath and the regulations are an important condition of the high combat readiness of units and ships in peacetime and wartime.

Our state was obliged to show special concern for preserving military and state secrets from the first days of the victory of Great October. It was necessary to stand our ground in a hostile encirclement. The imperialists did everything to stifle the young Soviet republic. They organized provocations, killings and acts of sabotage and enmeshed our country in a net of espionage. That is why V.I. Lenin stressed at that time: "...We are in conditions where military secrets are becoming very important questions--most substantial questions--for the Russian Republic."

Lenin's precept on the need to strictly keep military secrets and to tirelessly raise revolutionary vigilance became a law for our people and their armed defenders. It was remembered constantly in the years of the civil war and the years of peaceful building. Fighters and commanders were guided steadfastly by it during the Great Patriotic War.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev writes brilliantly about how skillfully military secrecy was maintained in his memoirs "Malaya Zemlya": "'When?' the fighters, commanders and political workers asked, not adding the word 'attack,' because it was clear what they meant anyway. This question could only be answered with one word: 'soon.' The day and the plan for the attack were kept in the strictest secrecy.... We banned any kind of correspondence connected with the operation under preparation. An extremely restricted circle of people was involved in elaborating it."

The annals of the Great Patriotic War are rich in such examples. To arm themselves with this experience and to use it creatively in relation to modern conditions is the duty of commanders, political workers and staff officers and a matter of honor for every serviceman.

The requirement of the military oath and regulations on the need to be vigilant and to strictly keep military and state secrets is of great significance today, too. Furnishing all branches of the Armed Forces with new hardware and weapons and involving many servicement in resolving tasks of state importance make the question of avoiding leakage of service information particularly pressing. It is also impossible not to reckon with the growing activeness of the intelligence organs of imperialist states directed against our country.

The Communist Party constantly reminds Soviet people of the need for high vigilance. The greetings message from the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers to servicemen of the Soviet Union's valorous Armed Forces on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Army and Navy stresses that the most important task of commanders, political organizers and party and Komsomol organizations is to educate personnel of units and ships in a spirit of high ideology and political vigilance, internationalism and combat collaboration with the servicemen of fraternal armies, loyalty to the revolutionary and combat traditions of older generations, and selfless devotion to the Soviet fatherland.

Interpreting the words of the greetings message as instructions from the party and people, Army and Navy servicemen are devoutly maintaining and augmenting combat traditions, carrying out duties vigilantly, persistently mastering hardware and weapons, and displaying great concern for preserving military and state secrecy. [paragraph continues]

Take, for instance, the Guards Antiaircraft Missile Regiment commanded by Lt Col of the Guard O. Fitkulin. Here priority attention is devoted to the ideological and political tempering of personnel and the cultivation of a responsible attitude among servicemen to information which is not to be divulged. The troops service is organized efficiently in the unit, and a strict system of permits is maintained.

The basis of such qualities as vigilance and a felling of responsibility for preserving military secrecy is the ideological tempering and political awareness of servicemen. The serviceman with firm ideological convictions has an exacting approach to every step and every action. He does not permit deviations from the demands of the oath and military regulations. That is why active, purposeful work in cultivating communist convictions and high moral, political and combat qualities among servicemen is a most important condition for insuring vigilance in service and a responsible attitude to military secrets.

It is very important for the work of commanders, political organizers and party and Komsomol organizations in cultivating vigilance to embrace all categories of servicemen and to take into account the particular features of the tasks being resolved by the subunit, unit or ship. The activeness of this work must increase in the course of exercises and maneuvers which demand particularly great attentiveness to questions of maintaining military secrecy. And the correct action is taken where, in the process of preparing for these important events, work in explaining the requirements of the oath and regulations to personnel is intensified.

Great responsibility rests on those to whom work with service documents in headquarters is entrusted and those who carry out radio communications. Thorough selection and the skillfully organized education of these cadres must exclude from their work any deviations from existing rules and instructions. Exceptionally great significance is attached to the question of preserving military secrecy for those who serve outside the motherland and take part in long-distance ocean voyages.

The preservation of military secrecy is promoted by efficient organization, strong military discipline and firm regulation order in accordance with regulations in subunits and units and on ships. Even today it is important to remember Lenin's words that the slightest lawless action, the slightest violation of Soviet order is a chink that enemies immediately exploit. It is necessary to fight resolutely against idle talkers and gullible people and to close all channels through which a leak of service information is possible.

It is known that hostile agents connect implementation of their intrigues primarily with people who are not idologically and morally stanch, who are careless and fond of alcohol. So the higher the level and effectiveness of political influence on personnel and the stronger the moral principles in the military collective, the fewer loopholes there are for the enemy. The arsenal of party political work in educating personnel in a spirit of vigilance is diverse. Commanders, political organizers and party and Komsomol organizations are called upon to use all forms and methods of influence rationally to cultivate vigilance and teach servicement to be implacable toward any manifestations of complacency and carelessness.

Soviet servicemen reliably defend our people's socialist gains and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of their great fatherland. It is their sacred duty to strictly keep military secrets, a necessary condition of their exemplary fulfillment of their constitutional duty, and to be in a state of constant combat readiness guaranteeing a speedy rebuff to any aggressor.

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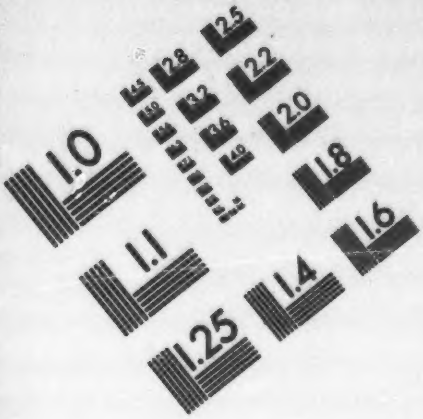
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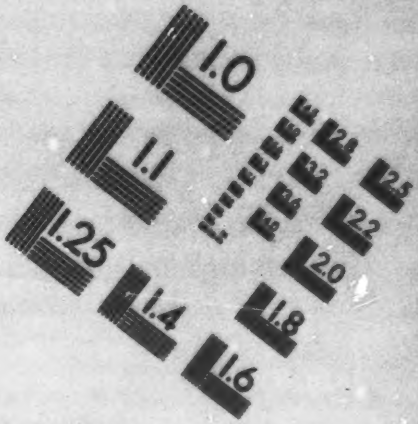
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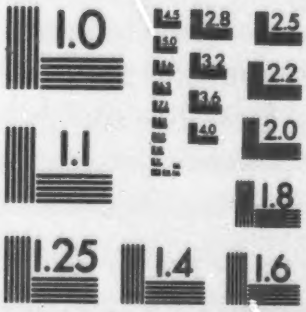
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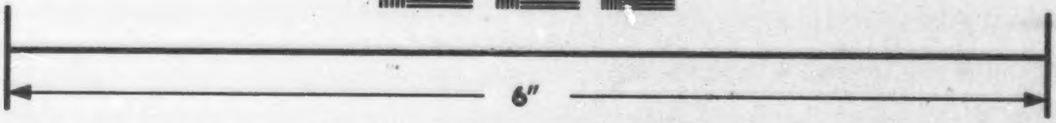

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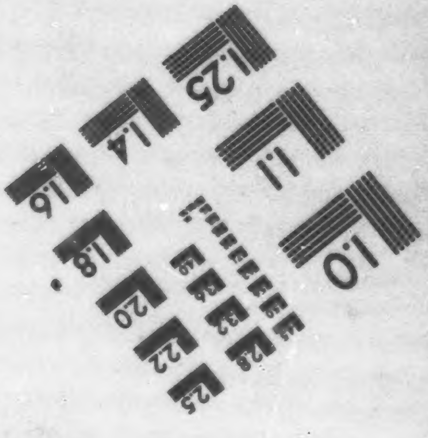
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